U.S. move beginning of a new era?

see pages 6 and 7

The Canadian Jewish News

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President Reagan and George Shultz — their decision that the U.S. talk to Arafat marks a new milestone in the history of the Israel-Arab conflict.

U.S.-Israel relations face "serious test"

By
CJN NEWS SERVICES

JERUSALEM —

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, reacting to the U.S. decision to open a dialogue with the PLO, said last week that the "grave, painful and difficult" move puts relations between Israel and the U.S. "to a very serious test."

Shamir, in his first public response to the latest developments, said that the U.S. had been "swept away" by a worldwide fashion of sympathy for the "terrorist" body. "Fashions can sometimes be crazy," he said.

Shamir's media spokesman, Avi Pazner, insisted that the reversal of American policy would not change Israel's determination never to deal with the PLO, under any circumstances.

Israel Television reported that the Likud leader himself was in an angry, depressed mood and had turned down scores of interview requests.

Sources in the Prime Minister's Office said that Shamir, recognizing the need for a diplomatic counterattack, would seize the initiative after a government is set up. Shamir's moves, however, would be aimed at advancing negotiations with Jordan, Egypt and the Palestinians, based on the Camp David autonomy proposals, with the superpowers arranging direct negotiations between the sides.

Shamir said: "We have always said that the U.S. and Israel are allies, that there is an alliance between us. Allies can have serious disagreements, but such divergent approaches don't harm the alliance itself.

"This week something happened that puts that principle to a very serious test. The U.S. decided to start talking with Israel's arch-enemy. It is no wonder we are all trying to decide what happened, why it happened, and what we should do about it."

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said that despite the U.S. decision to open a formal dialogue with the PLO, relations between Israel and the U.S. remain "friendly, meaningful and trustworthy."

He added: "This is a sad day for all of us." He said however, that "sadness alone is no policy," and urged a new Israeli initiative.

Peres demanded an absolute cessation of terror, including the violence in the territories, before Israel will negotiate with the Palestinians.

Peres, addressing the Knesset, also said that Israel cannot content itself with reacting to Yasser Arafat's speeches; it has to come up with a program of its own.

"We are ready for dialogue with the Palestinians . . . immediately. But on one condition: When there are talks, there's no shooting. When the shooting stops, we will start to talk," Peres said, taking a far more moderate line than Shamir.

While critical of Arafat for ducking the major issues, Peres also complimented the PLO leader for frequently invoking the word "peace." Arafat, said Peres, had learned some important lessons. But he should still learn more.

[Cont'd. on page 15]

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres meet at talks to form a national unity government.

Despite policy differences...

Unity govt. predicted

By
CJN NEWS SERVICES

JERUSALEM -

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres made last-ditch efforts this week to form a new national unity government following Washington's decision to talk to the PLO.

Shamir and Peres, leaders of the rival Likud and Labor parties, met to bridge differences over parliamentary posts, ministerial portfolios, proposed Jewish settlements in the territories amid widespread expectations they would reach a coalition accord by the end of the week.

"Things are in the final phase now," a Peres aide said. "Obviously there is brinkmanship on both sides but I think they are bound to agree."

On Sunday, Shamir postponed for 24 hours talks with far-right and religious parties to finalize a narrow rightist government, making a final bid for a unity coalition.

After the hour-long meeting, Peres left the Prime Minister's office for consultations with Labor ministers, saying he and Shamir had agreed to meet again later in the day.

Shamir, bitterly critical of the U.S. decision to open dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organization, regarded by Israel as a terrorist movement, has said it makes the formation of a broad Israeli government more urgent.

Aides said he would prefer not to head a rightist-religious cabinet that could make Israel appear inflexible and extremist while the PLO was making diplomatic gains with a public display of moderation.

On the West Bank, another Palestinian shot by troops during widespread clashes in Nablus last Friday died of his wounds on Monday, raising the Arab death toll in a year-old uprising against Israeli rule to at least 341. Thirteen Israelis have died in the revolt.

Labor Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Likud minister without portfolio Moshe Arens, slated to take the foreign ministry in the new government, also attended the coalition talks.

Peres has agreed to be finance minister but is demanding control of parliament's powerful finance committee for Labor.

Labor's intense interest in that area is motivated, some observers say, by the need to bail out a giant Socialist enterprise, the Histadrut-owned Koor Industries, which faces bankruptcy.

Labor also is said to have balked at the over-generous government subsidies Likud promised the ultra-Orthodox school system and religious institutions.

Other points of dispute include the education ministry, presently held by Labor but promised by Shamir to the Orthodox parties, and the number of new settlements to be established in the West Bank.

Shamir has promised the right-wingers 40 settlements at the rate of 10 a year during each of the four years of the next government's tenure.

[Cont'd. on page 15]

Xmas tourism shows decrease

JERUSALEM (JTA) —

Christmas tourism has dropped sharply because of the ongoing Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, officials of the tourism ministry said last week.

They expect about 70,000 visitors for the holiday, a 14% drop from last year. Some Jerusalem and Nazareth hotel managers say they have no bookings at all for the holidays.

Ministry officials had predicted a record tourism year in 1988 because of Israel's 40th anniversary celebration. But those expectations were spoiled by the Palestinian uprising, which broke out on Dec. 9, 1987.

The tourism ministry, however, is sticking to its holiday plans. The choir will perform in Bethlehem's Manger Square on Christmas eve, as in past years.

Midnight Mass will be celebrated at St. Catherine's Church, built over the cave where according to Christian tradition, Jesus was born.

But Mayor Elias Freij of Bethlehem has cancelled many of the city's traditional Christmas festivities in solidarity with the uprising.

There will be no scout parade, no city-sponsored decorations and the municipality's annual reception for diplomats has been called off.

Claudio Baratto, director of the Christian Information Center in the Old City of Jerusalem, said the unrest has not affected the number of pilgrims due to arrive there for Christmas.

No issue Dec. 29; we'll be back Jan. 5

Because of the holidays and resultant disruptions in our production services, there will be NO ISSUE on Dec. 29.

We'll be back with the lastest news on developments in Israel on Jan. 5. Except for international news coming in on our wire services, the deadline for the Jan. 5 issue is now past. Deadline for organizational news for the Jan. 12 issue is Friday, Dec. 23, in Toronto. After that we hope to get back to our normal schedules.

In advertising, the deadline for organizational, classified and display for the Jan. 5 issue is Wed. Dec. 28 at noon. Regular deadlines will apply to the Jan. 12 issue.

CIC sees hope for moderation

By
PAUL LUNGEN

OTTAWA —

The Canada Israel Committee last week expressed hope that recent diplomatic moves on the Middle East will lead to "further" Palestinian "moderation."

Commenting on the decision of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to open a dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organization, the CIC stated:

"We hope this leads to a constructive dialogue in which Palestinians will be encouraged to move towards further moderation, to abandon the PLO's covenant which calls for the destruction of Israel and to enter into direct negotiations with Israel, without preconditions.

"The PLO has long sought direct contact with the U.S. Now that they have it, they have the opportunity to demonstrate that their actions match their words."

Meanwhile, External Affairs minister Joe Clark issued a statement in the wake of the U.S.-PLO diplomatic moves, in which the minister called the American decision "an important step in the movement towards establishing the dialogue necessary for the successful resolution of the Middle East dispute."

Clark claimed the U.S. decision to open talks with the PLO was prompted by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's public statements in Geneva recognizing Israel's right to exist, renouncing terror and accepting UN resolutions 242 and 338.

Joe Clark

"Canada welcomes these developments and will continue to pursue its efforts in concert with others to achieve more progress," Clark stated.

Clark later told the House of Commons that Canada will not upgrade its relations with the PLO despite the American move.

"We already have contacts with the PLO and with other Palestinians," he said in response to a question by Progressive Conservative MP Robert Corbett. "We are intending no immediate change in the level or nature of those contacts."

Current Canadian policy allows the presence of a PLO representative in Ottawa but restricts him to government contacts below

[Cont'd. on page 15]

World-National

Jewish content disguised

By
RABBI W. GUNTHER PLAUT

Here are some odds and ends from my year-end file.

Feuchtwanger: Following my article about the famous novelist I heard from Richard A. Robinow of Toronto who sent me a copy of a fascinating interview which he had been granted with the writer, back in 1933. Robinow was then working as a freelance journalist in England, and The Yorkshire Post asked him to talk to Feuchtwanger who had just arrived in the country.

Rabbi Plaut

Predictably, the writer raged against the Nazis and defended the authenticity of his native background. He also told Robinow that his famous book *The Oppermanns* (later rewritten for TV) was published in Germany too, but under a slightly different title. To avoid harassment the book was renamed *The Oppenheims* — a name which would not at once give away the Jewish content of the book!

Liberation recalled

Reunion: After I had given a talk at the University of Waterloo (on "The Modernity of Moses Mendelssohn") a gentleman introduced himself as Zygmunt Kikoler (I may not have the spelling right). We had never met, he said, but we did have an important relationship. He remembered our (American) infantry division coming to Nordhausen and liberating the Dora concentration camp where he had been held a prisoner. Such meetings with former prisoners at Dora always have a profound effect on me and take me back to the days in April 1945 when we saw with our own eyes what we were never supposed to see.

Mr. Kikoler also told me that later, after he had already settled in Canada, he was called to testify against Adolf Eichmann, the notorious killer of our people, and thus had at least a small opportunity to expose the evil that had been perpetrated.

Reactions: I had given a lecture at Wilfred Laurier University on the subject of "Ethics and Business." Excerpts of the talk were published in *The Laureate*, the university's newsletter. Subsequently I received a sarcastic missive which took me severely to task for having the nerve to talk about ethics, when so many Jews (he named a few prominent ones) were greedy and lacking in ethical behavior.

Meaning misleads

The writer, who signed his name, posted his note from Kitchener which, he was at pains to point out to me, was originally called Berlin (until its name was changed during the First World War). In the eyes of people like him, whatever Jews do is wrong.

But there was a more interesting letter which I received anent my lecture. Dr. Paul G. Socken, of the faculty of arts, wrote to me about the use of the term "extermination," when speaking about the killing of six million Jews by Hitler. We Jews have fallen into a trap when we use that word, he wrote. The word exterminate "can indeed be a synonym for 'destroy' or 'eliminate,' but is most commonly used to describe the elimination of *insects*. I believe the word was chosen consciously or unconsciously by non-Jews to de-emphasize the horror of their atrocity to their fellow human beings.

"The word we should use is 'murder.' Every time we use any other term, especially 'exterminate,' we undermine Jewish suffering and devalue the Jewish loss."

This is an interesting observation about which I would like to hear from my readers. Of course, one might argue that the word "extermination" became popular precisely because it emphasizes how the Nazis denied the humanity of our people when they treated us like vermin. Do write me about this.

Book details results of mind abuse

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —

In October the CIA agreed to settle out of court a suit launched by nine Canadians who were subjected to brainwashing experiments at the Allan Memorial Institute in Montreal in the 1950s and 1960s. The settlement was a $108,000 award to each one.

The nine included Val Orlikow of Winnipeg, wife of former NDP MP David Orlikow, Louis Weinstein and Rita Zimmerman of Montreal. (The Orlikows in 1981 accepted a $50,000 out of court settlement in a suit against the Royal Victoria Hospital, to which the institute is affiliated, over these treatments.) Dr. Harvey Weinstein, associate professor of psychiatry at Stanford University, Calif., a son of Louis Weinstein, was an active figure in promoting the plaintiffs' case.

When the CIA settlement was announced, In The Sleep Room by Anne Collins (Lester & Orpen Denys, $16.95 paper) was already on the presses. It is a meticulous account of how Dr. Ewen Cameron, then head of the Allan, subjected some patients to psychic driving — massive electro-shock treatments, large doses of largactil, LSD or other drugs, chemically-induced sleep for weeks at a time, while tape-recorded messages were played into their headphones.

But psychic driving never worked, sometimes falling apart at the level of simple comprehension. One woman who was programmed to learn, "You are at ease with your husband," was convinced she was hearing, "You are a tease with your husband."

Cameron, a Scot who first settled in U.S., died 21 years ago in 1967, and among his papers were found the details of the CIA financing. (After the CIA money ran out, the Canadian government funded the research.)

The U.S. believed that Russia and China had found a way of brainwashing political prisoners and the CIA thought that Cameron's work would reveal how it was done.

In fact, the experiments did not disclose the secret of brainwashing, but it did rob the patients of their memory, disoriented them so they couldn't remember how to eat and made them unable to hold a job.

Louis Weinstein ran a successful dress manufacturing firm, Theresa Frocks, in Montreal. He developed bouts of anxiety which affected his breathing and digestion. He was treated by Cameron in 1956, 1957 and 1962. By 1961 he was unable to run his business and was forced to sell it and the family's home.

According to author Collins, Dr. Harvey Weinstein became a psychiatrist in order to find out what happened to his father, and she wrote there were days when he couldn't stop being ashamed of his profession and nights when he couldn't stop thinking of Dr. Ewen Cameron "who ruined my father's life."

Rita Zimmerman was under treatment by Cameron, intermittently, from 1946 to 1960. In 1959 she was put into sensory deprivation for 35 days and subjected to sleep and psychic driving.

Even after Cameron retired in 1964, Val Orlikow used to get her husband, David to drive the 185 miles to Lake Placid, NY, from Ottawa, so she could continue to see him. They did this Sunday after Sunday until Cameron refused to see her any longer.

One of the most revealing aspects of In The Sleep Room is not only how the CIA fought the nine plaintiffs every step of the way, with one legal obstacle after another, but how the Canadian government, while professing to be sympathetic to their cause, did not lift a finger to help them.

It was after Irangate and Contragate, that Washington lawyers Joe Rauh and Jim Turner started to make headway against the CIA for their Canadian clients. Rauh, an outstanding civil rights attorney, had to retire from the case because of age and poor health, but Turner carried on.

Finally a Washington judge ruled that the case should go to trial in May this year because there was conflicting evidence about the CIA's role in Cameron's work. (At one point the CIA offered to pay $25,000 to each patient to settle the affair but Rauh and Turner turned it down.)

The CIA won a postponement of the trial to October. One day before the trial was to begin, the CIA settled.

Anne Collins

The Leopold case shows criminals can be reformed

By
RICHARD COHEN

WASHINGTON —

Around the age of 12, I picked up Irving Stone's *Clarence Darrow For The Defence* and found my boyhood hero. Darrow, one of America's great criminal lawyers, defended John T. Scopes's right to teach evolution in Tennessee, and in Chicago he took on the hopeless case of two privileged youths who, for the sheer thrill of it, murdered a 14-year-old boy. Darrow used the Loeb-Leopold case of 1924 to teach a lesson. Sixty-four years later, it's in danger of being forgotten.

There was never any doubt about the guilt of either Richard Loeb or Nathan Leopold and indeed Darrow pleaded them guilty. His challenge was to save their lives. In a masterful 3-day summation, he argued that both youths (Loeb was 18, Leopold 19) were mentally ill. For witnesses Darrow called to the stand practitioners of a relatively new science: psychiatry. It took the judge three weeks to decide. He sentenced Loeb and Leopold to life plus 99 years. The hangman was cheated.

Implicit in Darrow's argument that his clients were mentally sick was the suggestion that they could be cured. In that, Darrow was proven right. Loeb was killed in prison, but Leopold was paroled in 1958 and devoted the rest of his life to scientific research. He died in Puerto Rico in 1971, a health department worker whose specialty was life-risking communicable diseases.

No one would argue that every criminal can be rehabilitated. Surely, though, some can and some have. Yet the national move at the moment seems to be lock 'em up and throw away the key. In the Washington area alone, two states — Maryland and Virginia — have had second thoughts about their furlough or parole programs. Virginia suspended its furlough program for inmates convicted of homicide, assault and kidnapping. In Maryland, the Patuxent Institution has cut back its work-release program after a furor caused by the weekend release of a triple murderer.

These actions — and similar ones in other states — are the baleful consequences of George Bush's campaign against Michael Dukakis. Bush seized upon Massachusetts' furlough of Willie Horton to clobber Dukakis — not entirely without justification. Horton, a convicted killer, was a bad choice for a furlough — and proved it by escaping and raping a woman in Maryland. For too long Dukakis defended a flawed program.

But Bush did more than just criticize Dukakis about Horton. In manner, if not in speech, he seemed to question the very idea of furloughs — in effect, of rehabilitation itself. Furthermore, he played cheerleader for those who believe — against all evidence — that crime can be reduced if only we have more cops and tougher judges.

For a rebuttal, Bush need look no further than Washington itself. Its prison population is one of the highest in the land. It has cops galore, too. But this year Washington has already set a record for murders — and the bell for New Year's has not yet rung.

A jittery population, understandably scared witless over crime, is entitled to have a say about how the prison system is run. In effect, what Bush heard — and Dukakis did not — was the cry of "Protect us." Prison officials, too, should hear that cry. The prisons they run are government institutions, ultimately accountable to the voters. The people have the sovereign right to end furlough or parole programs. They are not laboratory mice in penology experiments: Do not take a chance with criminals who have already proven they are dangerous.

But Darrow had a point, too. People can change; they can be rehabilitated. Charles Colson, Richard Nixon's White House hit-man in residence, came out of prison a born-again Christian and has devoted his life to a prison fellowship program. The streets are teeming with people who, when young, committed heinous crimes and now lead productive lives. Vengeance has its satisfactions, but so, too, does rehabilitation.

In 1924, Darrow called psychiatry to the witness stand. In doing so, he was asking that his clients be judged as individuals, not just by the crime they committed. Parole boards and furlough committees do precisely that. They ought to be cautious. They ought to be careful. But they ought to be able to say — maybe only occasionally — that a particular person has changed, that he no longer is a danger to society and that keeping him in prison does no one any good. They ought to have that option.

"You may hang these boys," Darrow told the judge in summation. "You may hang them by the neck until they are dead. But in doing it, you are turning your face to the past." A public, led by opportunistic politicians that would severely curtail proven parole or furlough programs would, in Darrow's phrase, be turning its face to the past. Back there is the hangman who nearly got Nathan Leopold.

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Henry Morgentaler, Stanley Gray among those in book

Gottheil profiles Quebec Jewish progressives

By
JANICE ARNOLD

MONTREAL —

Being the only Jew, and an anglophone at that, on the staff of the Confederation of National Trade Unions, Quebec's second largest labor federation which was at one time run by the Catholic Church, placed certain responsibilities on Allen Gottheil.

Gottheil was an organizer for the CNTU for 13 years, a job which brought him into contact with thousands of Quebec workers.

Although he was well accepted by his peers and recalls no disparaging personal remarks, Gottheil says he "inevitably" encountered as he travelled around the province less than flattering references by workers to "les juifs," who were seen as a powerful, privileged group.

Gottheil could have let it go — few knew that he was Jewish outside the office — but he chose instead to try to correct the perception that Jews formed some monolithic elite. Equally, when he was among Jews and a nasty remark about French Canadians was made, he did not let it pass.

"Whenever I pointed out that something said about Jews was not right, 99% would excuse themselves. They felt bad. Often, the next time I would see them, they would almost shyly ask a question about Jews. They were genuinely interested.

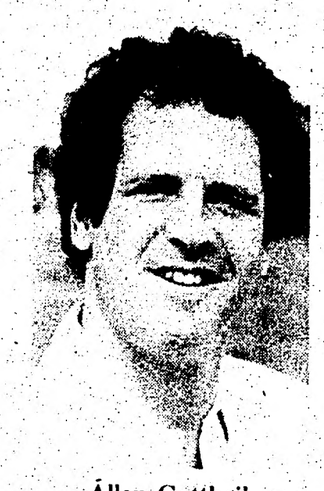
"There's an ignorance of Jews among French Canadians, but they have no monopoly on ignorance."

Gottheil, 39, left the CNTU in 1986, but his attempts to bridge the two communities has not stopped. He recently published at his own cost (and with some help from the Canada Council) the book Les Juifs Progressistes au Quebec (Jewish Progressives in Quebec), his attempt to demonstrate the diversity within the Jewish community.

He wanted to show Quebec Jews who did not fit the usual French Canadian stereotypes of either businessmen "obsessed by money" or of chassidim.

Gottheil provides a basic introduction to what makes Jews tick because of their religion and history, as well as a brief discussion of Jewish radicalism, in the opening chapters.

The bulk of the book is biographies of 10 contemporary Jews whom he classifies as "progressive" and who have, like himself, integrated into the francophone milieu without denying their Jewish identity.



Allen Gottheil

Almost all are left-wingers who, with the possible exception of Montreal city councillor Arnold Bennett, are far removed from the mainstream of the Jewish community.

The group comprises: abortion pro-choice advocate Dr. Henry Morgentaler; Lea Roback, now 85, an early feminist, unionist, peace activist and communist; Maurice Amram, the Moroccan-born Sephardi, who was president of the Federation national des communications, which groups all press, electronic media and printing unions of the CNTU; Donna Mergler, a socialist militant and union activist who has fought for safety in the workplace; Stanley Gray, another Marxist who led the "McGill francais" movement and was later imprisoned during the October Crisis; Andrea Levy, a peace activist and environmentalist, and at 28, the youngest subject in the book; Arnold Bennett, a founder of the Montreal Citizens' Movement and tenants' rights advocate; Nancy Neamtan, a community organizer in Point St. Charles; Jean Claude Bernheim, Montreal director of the Prisoners' Rights Office, a francophone born in Switzerland who grew up in Napierville; and Donna Cherniak, a doctor and family planning pioneer based in Sherbrooke, but originally from Windsor, Ont.

They discuss their experience as Jews among French-Canadians and their own sense of identity as Jews and Quebecers, as well as Quebec nationalism, Israel and the Palestinian conflict.

Gottheil was born in Cleveland, where his Canadian father Jack (now president of the Golden Age Association here) was a social worker in the Jewish community. The family moved back to Montreal soon after, and Allen grew up in predominantly anglophone Montreal West.

He attended McGill University and was active in the student movement of the late 60s. From his student days, Gottheil knew he wanted to be a union organizer and his first job out of university was with the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union. A few months later, he joined the CNTU, the first Jew to work full time on its staff. Just before he left a second Jew, Norman King, was hired.

The CNTU was then led by Michel Chartrand, who, with Centrale de l'Enseignement du Quebec president Yvon Charbonneau, had embarked on a pro-Palestinian crusade in the province. Gottheil notes that, with a change of leadership, the CNTU's views on the Middle East have moderated.

Gottheil sees parallels between Jews and Quebecois in their desire to maintain their heritage and resist assimilation, as well as their nationalism and struggle for a political existence.

Montreal Mayor Jean Dore says Les Juifs Progressistes au Quebec has helped "abolish barriers that separate human beings," while CNTU vice-president Monique Simard remarks that the book is a reminder that "a rich society is a pluralist society."

Gottheil has been doing freelance pleading before the labor courts for various unions and will soon be teaching at the University of Quebec at Hull.

Slovak minister now in Toronto

Alleged Nazi collaborator named

By
PAUL LUNGEN

KINGSTON, Ont. —

In a special report in the Kingston Whig-Standard, a Toronto businessman has been named as an important member of the wartime pro-Nazi government of Slovakia.

The insurance executive, now 75, was sentenced in absentia to 20 years in prison for treason by the post-war Czechoslovakia government, according to the report. He had been a key figure in the 1939 dismemberment of the democratic Czech republic and the advent of the fascist, anti-semitic government of Slovakia that was allied with Nazi Germany.

According to the 47-page supplement, the onetime Slovak official advocated measures to disenfranchise Jews and he held a key post in the government from 1939-40. He served as an envoy to Switzerland from 1942-45.

Approximately 70,000 Slovak Jews were killed during the Holocaust, with the head of the puppet state, Joseph Tiso, hanged afterwards for war crimes.

The in-depth investigative piece was six months in the making, but was not unusual for the Whig-Standard, said deputy editor Harvey Schachter. Each of the past several years, the paper has devoted a special supplement to an in-depth investigative report.

Last year, the paper tackled a bungled undercover investigation into cases of alleged falcon smuggling, winning top national prize in the magazine category of the Centre for Investigative Journalism's annual awards.

Other, similarly extensive reports focused on police investigations into drug smugglers and into the Afghanistan war.

The piece on the former Slovak official was suggested by former Whig-Standard reporter Paul McKay, who had learned of him while researching a book on a late Slovak businessman. He was assisted by reporter Beppi Crosariol, who spent approximately two months on the story.

Mindful of the 50th anniversary of Kristallnacht, the Nazi pogrom in which German mobs murdered Jews and attacked Jewish shops and synagogues, and the "intriguing" aspect of the Slovakian story, the editors agreed it would be worth pursuing, Schachter said.

Though it was to have been completed for the Saturday, Nov. 15 issue to coincide with Kristallnacht, the "massive" nature of the work required more time and compelled a later release date.

The supplement makes for "a fascinating reading experience," Schachter said. "We think it raises questions people have to deal with...(It is) a fair, balanced, interesting educational account," he added, noting the size of the supplement permits the paper to deal with the complexities of the subject and touch on the gray areas of the period, showing a number of sides to the story.

"We're confident of its accuracy," the editor said, adding the subject around whom the story revolved declined to be interviewed or to answer written questions.

Investigators seek Holocaust info

NEW YORK —

Canadian and American investigators are asking for the assistance of witnesses to Nazi atrocities in the Auschwitz death camp and in the puppet state of Slovakia, according to a World Jewish Congress news release.

The RCMP is investigating events in Slovakia (Czechoslovakia) between 1938-44 at the hands of the Hlinka Slovak People's Party.

As a satellite of Nazi Germany, the Slovak government implemented anti-Jewish regulations and policies.

The RCMP are soliciting witnesses to the enactment, implementation and enforcement of anti-Jewish legislation; the arrest, confinement, deportation, transportation and execution of Jews from the cities or districts of Bratislava, Bardejov, Banska Bystrica, Krupina and Krennicka and of the activities of the Hlinka party or the Hlinka Guard in these locations.

The U.S. justice department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI) is seeking witnesses imprisoned at the Auschwitz I main camp in Silesia, between November 1942 and November 1944.

OSI is investigating an alleged member of an SS guard company assigned to the camp.

Witnesses, whether English-speaking or not, with information on either of these investigations are asked to contact Betty Pupko, World Jewish Congress, 501 Madison Ave., New York, NY, 10022, or telephone (212) 755-5770.

TJC aids Armenia relief

TORONTO —

The officers of Toronto Jewish Congress last week voted to contribute $2,500 out of its contingency funds for Armenian earthquake relief.

While expressing its "deepest sympathies to the Armenian community," TJC also encourages members of the Jewish community to make their own contributions to earthquake relief, said Steve Ain, TJC executive director.

The Name Game

There is a story in almost every Jewish surname and Toronto lawyer FRED M. CATZMAN has been researching their origins over the past few years. Mr. Catzman reports on his research in The CJN. If you have any information relating to the origin and meaning of your surname, please pass it along to Fred. M. Catzman, c/o The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1.

* * *

BLAUAUG — GOLDHAR

Betty Blaug is a charming lady whose name is abbreviated from the original BLAUAUG — German for "blue-eye."

It is in the category of descriptive surnames. A more familiar name is Goldhar (gold hair). It may not be as rich-sounding as "platinum blonde" but it has a more pleasant connotation. By way of contrast, Dunkelman means "dark-complexioned."

These names refer to features of complexion. There are, of course, other descriptions which for example involve:

Height — LANGER (longfellow) and KURTZER (shorty).

Size — HOCHMAN (tall man) and KLEIN (little guy).

Build — DICKMAN (husky) and MAGERMAN (skinny).

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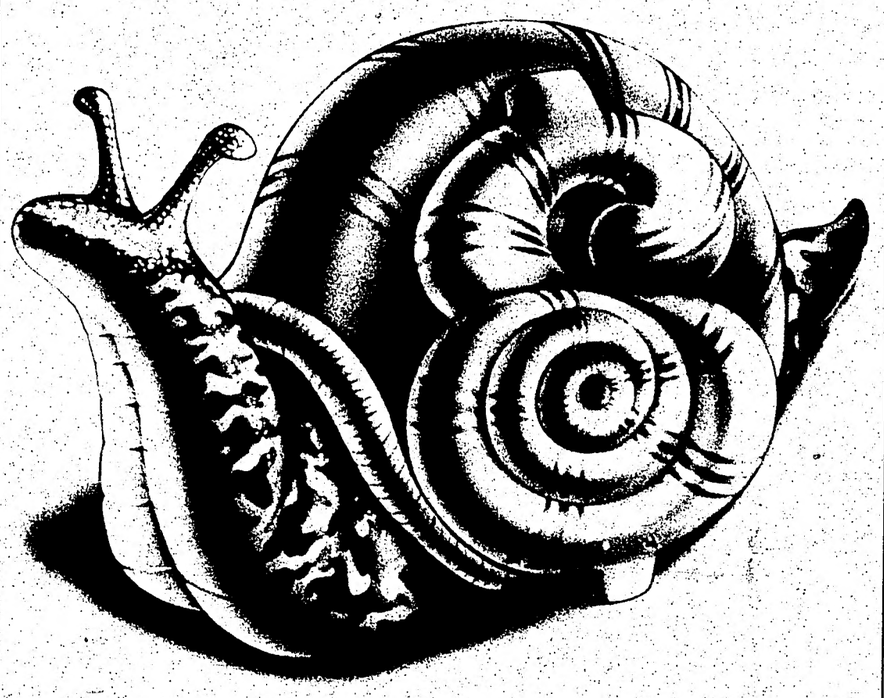

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Living Halacha

By
RABBI MOSES J. BURAK

QUESTION: Do you see anything wrong if a man who serves as Torah reader of the congregation wants to be paid for this work?

ANSWER: It is now the norm that synagogues pay a man to read the Torah for them. Since generations of rabbis have permitted it, that must be an acceptable practice. But, the question is not an easy one.

Rabbi Burak

In the Talmudic period, all men who served in the field of religion did so without charge. The men who instructed others in Torah studies were not expected to ask for tuition fees. We don't find any evidence that Moshe charged for his services to the Jewish community. But, in time it was recognized that not everyone can have such high standards.

Many solutions

It was then that the Jerusalem Talmud found a number of ways to solve this dilemma. One of them was the following ruling: The teacher who gets paid is not being paid for teaching Torah, but for the time he loses from gainful employment. This meant, however, that if a man had well-filled pockets and didn't need to work for his living, he ought not to accept payment.

The Gaon Yaacov Orenstein z.l. who served as Rav of Lemberg took no salary from the community. He was independently wealthy, and didn't need the money. A sharp-witted questioner wanted to know why he accepted this post with all its headaches, when he wouldn't accept the handsome income that went with the position.

Reb Yaacov gave him this reply: Hashem gives a man the brainpower he needs for the task allotted to him. If he serves as the rabbi of a shtetl with 100 Jews, Hashem gives him the brains for that challenge. If he serves a community of 1,000 Jews, the Almighty gives him the intellectual power needed for that task.

Brainpower is reward

Rav Orenstein z.l. concluded his reply with these words: "I have accepted this challenging position without pay, and will feel amply rewarded when the Almighty will give me the extra brainpower needed to lead this great community of Lemberg."

Still and all, the problem of payment arose whenever a kehilla required special services. On Rosh Hashanah we need a *ba'al toke'ah*, a man to blow the shofar. May he be paid for doing that? The Code, O. H. Chapter 585:5 states that one who gets paid for blowing shofar "will see no blessing in that money."

In the same paragraph, the Code lists several other tasks — namely, chanting the service on Sabbath and Holy days, or giving a running translation of the Torah readings on those special days. There will be no blessing in that money. But, that phrase means that there is no sin in taking the money.

Problem goes deeper

The problem around the issue of getting paid for reading the Torah, however, goes a little deeper. He reads it on Saturday, and thus is being paid for what he does on Shabbas, and that's really forbidden. The solution for him is to read it on Monday and Thursday as well. Then it's all right. Rabbis and cantors have the same problem.

In our shul, we are blessed with a scholarly gentleman, Rev. Herbert Light n.y. who has been reading the Torah for us for over 20 years at no charge. Another synagogue, much closer to his home, offered him a considerable inducement to come to them.

He refused their offer, but said that he would come to serve them free of any charge, provided they would emplace a *mechitza* Separation between men's and women's seating. This was too high a price for them to pay, and they didn't accept the offer.

Those who accept a salary without qualm, have a solid text in Yerushalmi Sukkah, Chapter 5:1, quoted in Da'as Torah: "Rabbis Levi and Yehudah were paid . . . for preaching each Sabbath day."

Change to law a "clear signal"

By
PAUL LUNGEN

OTTAWA —

Changing Israel's law on Who is a Jew would send a clear message to potential converts that Reform and Conservative conversions are not aceptable to Israel and would influence them to undergo an Orthodox conversion acceptable to all Jews, an Ottawa rabbi stated recently.

Following a recent mission of Orthodox rabbis to Israel (CJN Dec. 8), Rabbi Mordecai Berger, the spiritual leader of the Young Israel congregation said "the reality of Jewish life is that Israel's definition of Who is a Jew will have an immediate ripple effect on the 10 million Jews of the Diaspora, particularly the non-Orthodox community.

"Israel's definition of conversion, if it is in accordance with halacha (Jewish law), strikes a loud and clear message — Reform and Conservative conversions are not acceptable to a secular Jewish state. The ramifications are immense."

Since Israel's Nov. 1 election, in which Orthodox political parties holding 18 seats gained the balance of power in the Knesset, the Jewish world has been rocked by the possibility Israel's Law of Return could be changed.

The amendments, advocated by the Orthodox parties, would grant immediate citizenship to those born of a Jewish mother or who have been converted to Judaism *according to halacha*, which would exclude conversions by non-Orthodox rabbis.

Since the post-election negotiations began to form a coalition government, numerous Diaspora Jewish groups have travelled to Israel to lobby politicians and others not to change the law.

Berger was part of a delegation which supports the proposed amendments.

Shamir met for 15 minutes in his office with Rabbis David Sabbah, head of the Rabbinat Sepharade du Quebec (RSQ); Rabbi Benjamin Hauer, of Montreal's Congregation Chevra Kadisha-B'nai Jacob; Armand Essiminy, 1st vice-president of RSQ; and Berger.

The delegation returned confident that the Premier is committed to amending the Law of Return.

"Shamir said that whether he forms a narrow or broad coalition government he is committed to the amendment," Hauer said. If and when the proposal comes to the vote, however, Shamir told the delegation he will not force Likud members to vote for the amendment. They may be absent from the Knesset to express their opposition, Hauer added.

Berger said a result of changes to the law could be to compel potential converts "to rethink their commitment to Judaism.

"If sincerely interested in becoming part of the Jewish people, they will proceed with an Orthodox conversion, and if not, they will remain non-Jews.

"A proper halachic conversion strikes at the very core of our being, the essence of our being one indivisible people. This issue, therefore, will clarify the identity of Jewish people as a single people," the rabbi stated.

Berger said people who wish to convert to Judaism are "uninformed or misinformed about the deficiency of Reform and Conservative conversion."

He stated "many in the Conservative movement do not recognize Reform conversion," adding "a tragic injustice is being perpetuated by Reform and Conservative clergy who perform conversion ceremonies.

"They are deceitfully harming the non-Jew who wishes to convert by not emphasizing the basic point: Reform and Conservative conversions will never be recognized by an Orthodox community. The non-Jew is being misled into becoming a Jew only in the eyes of the Reform and Conservative movements and not by the entire Jewish people."

Suggesting they had been "misled" to act as "unsuspecting pawns in the battle of Reform and Conservative clergy to achieve legitimacy," Berger said the only solution is a "single standard" of conversion according to halacha.

American Jewish federations threaten gift-giving to Israel

NEW YORK (JTA) —

Jewish federations in Atlanta, Boston and Pittsburgh have become the first to threaten "re-evaluations" of their gift-giving to Israel, unless the Who Is a Jew amendment to the Law of Return is killed.

The strongest statement was made by the Atlanta Jewish Federation. Its board of trustees recently approved a resolution saying that "no portion of (federation) funds will be allocated overseas until the Law of Return is satisfactorily resolved to the consensus of the leadership of our community."

David Sarnat, executive director of the Atlanta federation, said that the statement's wording is stronger than its intent, and that no funds will be withheld.

Despite such qualifications, however, actions in Atlanta, Pittsburgh and Boston state a clear message: Federations are responding to the frustrations of lay leaders who are appalled by an imminent change in the Law of Return.

The change would require that converts to Judaism who wish to enter Israel as Jews be converted "according to halacha," or Jewish law.

Jewish organizational leaders have been travelling to Israel in large numbers to lobby intensively against the amendment. But the leaders have not been encouraged by their meeting with Israeli leaders, and have returned to constituencies clamoring for firmer action.

In Boston, the community response took the form of a public statement that the federation would "reconsider our allocations so as to increase our support for those agencies in Israel which promote religious pluralism."

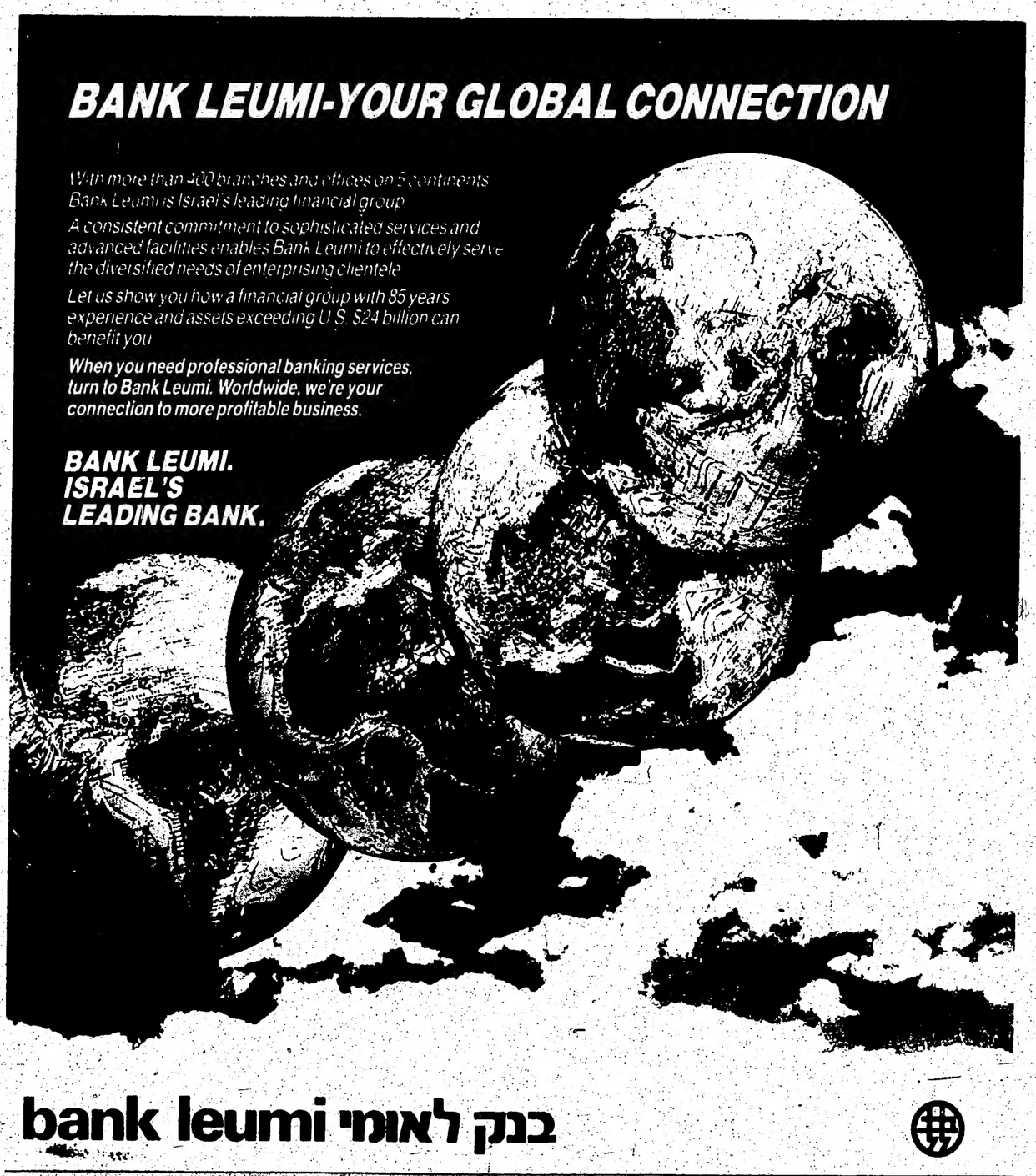
At the same time, the federation would retain its "traditional support for vital human service needs in Boston, Israel and overseas," according to Rabbi David Mersky, director of campaign and development for the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston.

In Pittsburgh, the board of directors of the United Jewish Federation met this week to consider a number of proposals about "finding an appropriate way to connect with Israel for the future," said Howard Rieger, executive vice-president of the United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh.

The Pittsburgh federation was the only delegation at the Council of Federations General Assembly in New Orleans last month to approve a resolution calling on the Jewish Agency for Israel to cease funding institutions that support the Who Is a Jew amendment. The proposal was rejected by a majority of General Assembly delegates, who felt it was too punitive.

The Jewish Agency receives approximately 39% of the funds raised by the annual community federation campaigns.

In 1987-88, Boston's campaign raised a total of $25 million; Atlanta and Pittsburgh each raised a total of $9.6 million. Each allocated approximately half of those amounts to the United Jewish Appeal, which funds the Jewish Agency and other overseas concerns.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Federations ask Who is a Jew issue be shelved

WASHINGTON — The Council of Jewish Federations has urged Israel's Likud and Labor parties to release a joint declaration removing the divisive Who is a Jew issue from negotiations aimed at forming a governing coalition.

The request was conveyed to Israel's ambassador to the United States, Moshe Arad, by 125 American Jewish leaders who met recently with the envoy at the Israeli embassy in Washington.

Shoshana Cardin, past president of CJF and head of the delegation, said the council also wrote to Israeli President Chaim Herzog, urging such a statement from Likud and Labor, the country's two largest parties.

"Our prayer is that it will be a joint declaration," Cardin said. "If they both reject it, it cannot be part of a coalition government," she said.

CJF, which is an umbrella organization representing more than 200 North American Jewish federations, has campaigned actively against attempts through Israel's political system to change the definition of Who is a Jew.

It argues the issue is divisive and would alienate Israel from Diaspora Jews, the vast majority of whom are non-Orthodox.

At a news conference following the meeting with Arad, Cardin pointed out that the leaders in the delegation, who represent 60% of American Jews, flew into Washington "solely for this purpose.

"There are many expressions of deep personal pain — people who feel they indeed are being threatened with disenfranchisement — and that reality cannot be dismissed," she said.

As part of its lobbying campaign, CJF is continuing to send Jewish leaders to Israel. The 5th CJF delegation in less than a month arrived in Israel last week.

"We will keep sending delegations over and quite frankly, every mission that goes will become a delegation. It is no longer business as usual," she said.

Meanwhile, a delegation representing major Canadian Jewish federations and national organizations met recently with Israel's ambassador to Canada to convey their constituents' concerns about proposed changes to the Law of Return.

The presidents and executive directors of the organizations told Ambassador Israel Gur Arieh that world Jewry should not be divided by a political approach to the Who is a Jew question. It is a religious issue that shouldn't be tackled in the political arena of Israel's Knesset, they said.

The ambassador was presented with a copy of a resolution passed at last month's New Orleans meeting of the Council of Jewish Federations, which opposes proposed changes to the law.

Jack Rose, vice president of CJF and chairman of its Canadian committee, told the ambassador of the centrality of Israel to all Jews and that the proposed changes to the Law of Return should not be decided in a context of political accommodation.

Stating that Jewish history has forged unity, one in which the Diaspora is irrevocably committed to maintaining strong ties with Israel, Rose and the other delegates claimed that a legislative change could only lead to collective alienation.

A news release issued by the embassy stated the ambassador responded by acknowledging the strong need for a unified Jewish people and his understanding of Canadian Jewry's concerns.

The ambassador, who also pointed out the need for aliya from North America, noted he had received letters from Canadian Jews that had deeply moved him and that he had forwarded them to the government in Israel.

93 Palestinian terrorist cells exposed

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Israel's internal security service, known as Shin Bet, has exposed 93 Palestinian terrorist cells responsible for killing and maiming civilians in Israel and the territories, as well as attacks on military targets.

The top secret agency accomplished this in just two months — from Oct. 1 to Nov. 30 this year — according to a letter of congratulations from Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin to the head of Shin Bet, whose identity is classified.

The roundup resulted in the arrests of 610 suspects, 17 of them in Israel proper.

Half of the gangs are believed to have been local ad hoc groups. The rest were evenly divided between members of El Fatah, the terrorist arm of the mainstream Palestine Liberation Organization controlled by Yasser Arafat, and members of other PLO factions.

"I thank you and express my heartfelt esteem for your efforts, and wish you success in your future activities for the sake of the security of the people of Israel," Rabin said in his letter.

Two of the worst outrages attributed to the gangs were the firebombing of an Egged bus near Jericho on Oct. 28, in which an Israeli woman and her three small children were burned to death, and a grenade attack on the Nordau St. pedestrian mall in Haifa last July.

A 9-year-old boy lost a foot and 24 people were wounded.

The 13 suspects in that attack were arrested only recently. All are Israeli Bedouins, including two who served in the Israel Defence Force, and two women.

Israeli Bedouins, generally loyal, expressed shock at the news.

The suspects range in age from 18 to 27. Ten lived in Ibtin village east of Haifa, two in the neighboring village of Kabiya and one is from Umm El-Fahm.

Haifa Police Chief Joseph Levy said that the suspects were members of a PLO cell that received "general instructions and some funds from Fatah, from outside the country, but had been left to work out detailed operations on their own."

In addition to the Haifa mall attack, they are charged with eight attacks and attempted attacks on soldiers and civilians.

The gang leader visited Greece several times to get instructions and money from his PLO handler, the official said.

Other crimes attributed to the various cells include grenade attacks on IDF soldiers; planting an explosive charge near the apartment owned by Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon in the Moslem quarter of Jerusalem's Old City; and the assassination of Arabs suspected of collaborating with the Israel authorities.

A breakdown of the arrests showed that 62 cells were in the West Bank, 27 in the Gaza Strip, and four in Israel.

Twenty-nine of them were associated with El Fatah, five with the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and three with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Eight cells were run by Moslem fundamentalist groups. Five of them belonged to Hamas, the Islamic resistance organization, and three belonged to Islamic Jihad.

Israel not attracting many Soviet Jews

JERUSALEM (JTA) — **Israel is not attracting many Jews from the Soviet Union and is losing a record number of its own Jews to emigration, according to two sets of figures just made public.**

The Jewish Agency for Israel reported that more than 15,000 Jews have been permitted to leave the Soviet Union in 1988, nearly double last year's numbers.

But the dropout rate now is 92%. Of 2,334 Jews who left the Soviet Union in November, only 179 came to Israel.

The Association for the Prevention of Yerida reports that about 21,000 Israelis left the country in 1988, up from 17,000 the year before.

According to the association, this made 1988 a record year for yerida — Jewish emigration from Israel.

The problem is especially acute among kibbutz youths and army veterans, the association reported. It said that many young people who take overseas trips after their military service end up living abroad.

Meanwhile, Uri Gordon, head of the Jewish Agency's immigration and absorption department, said experts on the Soviet Union predict it could issue as many as 30,000 exit permits to Jews in 1989.

Correction

In the article on Voices of Survival, a documentary about Holocaust survivors who settled in Canada (Dec. 8), it was reported that the film will be broadcast on Global Television.

In fact, the film will be aired on TVOntario, says co-producer Alan Handel. No date, however, has been set.

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BRONFMAN AT CJC RECEPTION

During his recent visit to Toronto, World Jewish Congress president Edgar Bronfman (left) attended a reception hosted by Canadian Jewish Congress (CJN Dec. 15). Here Bronfman greets (from left) David Azrieli, president of the Canadian Zionist Federation; Charles Zaionz, CJC Ontario Region chairman; CJC president Dorothy Reitman; Morton Bessner, CJC Quebec Region chairman; and CJC honorary president Monroe Abbey.

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World-National

A New Era?

Israeli commentator suggests:

Superpower pressures could be in the offing

By
YEHUDA LITANI

JERUSALEM (JPFS) —

At last, Yasser Arafat uttered the words the U.S. had expected him to voice in Geneva.

It was very difficult for him to go all the way at once. For many years, ambiguity was almost his middle name. Some Middle East analysts made allowances, saying that as head of a Palestinian "unity government"-in-exile, Arafat had to take into account extreme elements within the organization represented by George Habash, Nayef Hawatmeh and the like.

Arafat would not take the plunge, they said, because he was afraid of their reaction. For the last couple of years, he did not go the whole way because he feared a split within the PLO's ranks. He decided to say it now, however, because he knew that the U.S. would immediately start a dialogue with the PLO.

But, despite Arafat's hesitation, he has undoubtedly made some progress. It could even be argued that his refusal — up to the press conference he held in Geneva last week — to say the words the Americans wanted to hear was a form of honesty. Although his rate of change is tortoise-like, there has definitely been a noticeable change in his position from Strasbourg to Algiers, and from Algiers to Stockholm, and from Stockholm to Geneva.

* * *

The PLO's goal for the last couple of years has been to try and open channels of communication with the U.S., to start a real dialogue with the Americans. Now it seems that Arafat will continue on the same path, in an attempt to further clarify his positions regarding the three American preconditions for starting this dialogue. He may even succeed in convincing the new U.S. administration to fully recognize his organization.

A lot, however, depends on the course the *intifada* takes in the near future. The *intifada* may be on the brink of shifting spontaneously from stones and petrol-bombs to armed attacks and terrorism in the territories and inside Israeli cities, while the PLO abroad pursues its diplomatic courtship of the U.S.

If real terror becomes the next phase, it will undoubtedly undermine the diplomatic efforts, though it could be argued that both tactics are intertwined in the PLO's overall strategy. If incidents like last week's murder of two Israelis near Nablus become widespread, the Americans will find it hard to accept the continued talk by PLO leaders about the olive branch and their alleged enthusiasm for a peaceful settlement. The bloodshed will negatively color the diplomatic efforts made by the PLO abroad.

But if the *intifada* continues on the same path as today, Israel will inevitably face combined U.S.-Soviet pressure to begin negotiations with the Palestinians. Whether Israel has a unity government or a narrow coalition will not make any difference in the face of such a move. Whether Peres or Moshe Arens is foreign minister, it will be almost impossible for Israel to repel a joint offensive by the two super-powers.

* * *

Prof. Yehoshafat Harkabi of the Hebrew University has said the bottom line in Arafat's Geneva speech was the PLO's acceptance of a 2-state solution between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean. The Israeli government does not accept the idea, he continued, and this asymmetry is working against us.

For Shimon Peres, the refusal to talk to the PLO now may be regarded as tactics. If, one day, the PLO substantively changes its policies, Peres and his friends in the Labor Party may talk to it.

But with an enemy like Yitzhak Shamir, the PLO does not need friends. The Prime Minister said last week repeating what he has said many times before, "We shall not negotiate with the PLO under any circumstances. Israel seeks peace and is ready to negotiate with all its Arab neighbors, but not with the PLO."

Palestinians hold aloft banned Palestinian flag in anti-Israel demonstration. [IPPA photo]

Most of the Palestinians of the territories regard the PLO as their sole and legitimate representative. They are the closest Arab neighbor we have. But they are occupied by Israel and, according to Shamir and many of his Likud colleagues, the Palestinians in the territories temporarily live on land that historically and legitimately belongs to the people of Israel. Can we make peace with our other "Arab neighbors," Jordan, Syria, Iraq, and ignore them for much longer?

* * *

And what should be done now, after the U.S. has started a dialogue with the PLO? Shamir was asked this during a press conference after Arafat's speech at the UN in Geneva, and he answered: "In such a case, we will maintain friendly relations and try to persuade the Americans that we are right." Shamir is known to regard the status quo as something to be preserved at all costs. But in radically-changed circumstances such as have occurred, with the U.S. starting a dialogue with the PLO, the status quo would hardly maintain its present shape.

Shamir's declaration is reminiscent of Arafat's promise to destroy the state of Israel. Now it appears that Arafat is talking peace. Although it is difficult to do so, it is not impossible to imagine Shamir also having to come to terms with reality.

But, until that time, it seems that Shamir's "bunker mentality" makes Israel appear to be the obstacle. It makes us look inflexible and obstinate. Unlike some other politicians, Shamir means what he says. He was very honest when he said that Israel would not negotiate with the PLO under any circumstances. He really believes that Israel can make peace with the Arab neighbors above the heads of the Palestinians, ignoring their demand for self-determination.

Many Palestinians in the territories say that they prefer Shamir to Peres, arguing that the former is at least straightforward and says what's on his mind. With the Labor leaders, these Palestinians say, it is much more difficult — they think along the lines of the Likud but they pretend to be different, more liberal and understanding.

What Israel needs, if it is to survive the crisis ahead of it, is a leader who combines Shamir's straightforwardness with the honesty and understanding Labor aspires to.

Unfortunately, there does not seem to be anyone like that among our leading politicians.

U.S. seeks to reassure Jerusalem

PLO must behave, Reagan states

By
WOLF BLITZER

WASHINGTON —

President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz have insisted that the U.S. will be watching carefully in the coming weeks and months to see whether the PLO lives up to its pledge no longer to engage in terrorism.

"The words must be matched by performance," Reagan told reporters at the White House on Dec. 15. "And if they're not, why, we're back (to) where we started."

Later, he repeated that the U.S. would "certainly break off communications" if the PLO did not live up to its word.

Both the President and the secretary publicly stressed that U.S. support for Israel remains firm despite the start of an American dialogue with the PLO. "We have made it very plain that we have not retreated one inch from our position of guaranteeing the safety of Israel," the President said.

Meeting at the state department with a small group of reporters later in the day, Shultz said that the dialogue with the PLO was in itself "not an end. Our object is to do whatever we can — in talking with whoever we talk to — to help move things toward peace in the Middle East."

He said there was "complete support" in Israel for a just, secure and lasting peace in the region. "People want that," he said. "So that's what we'll keep working at."

At the first meeting with the PLO in Tunis, Shultz continued, the U.S. would "emphasize our total rejection of terrorism anywhere outside Israel, inside Israel. Terrorism is something we abhor, and we want to make it very plain, and we'll take the occasion to do that."

Other U.S. officials said that the preliminary U.S. talks with the PLO would go slowly. They denied that any major U.S. peace initiative would get off the ground before President-elect Geroge Bush takes office on Jan. 20.

(Robert Pelletreau Jr., the U.S. envoy to Tunisia, held talks with PLO representatives last week after arranging the meeting by telephone. Charles Redman, a state department spokesman, said the meeting was likely to be the only one before Bush takes office. He added that the meeting was held to fulfil the longstanding U.S. promise to open a dialogue with the PLO once it explicitly recognized Israel's right to exist, renounced terrorism and accepted UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.)

The Americans expressed confidence that the Bush administration would now be in a position to take office with a running start — not hindered by the 13-year prohibition against talking directly to the PLO.

Shultz, like Reagan, actively sought to reassure Israel. "Our sense of commitment to Israel and Israel's security is strong, unshakable, as it has always been," he said.

He was confident that the strong U.S.-Israeli relationship would remain in effect despite this opening of an American dialogue with the PLO. "We have all sorts of problems that occasionally create tensions but basically we have a very strong relationship with Israel," he said. "We've worked through many difficult issues during my time in office, and that will continue because we have parallel interests. We have a great sense of community. We are democracies, and so we will work through these problems together.

In defending the decision to open contacts with the PLO, Shultz referred to the 1975 conditions. "They have not changed," he said. "Our position has been a constant. It is exactly as it has been. The PLO, Mr. Arafat speaking for them, finally made what we considered to be a clear statement meeting our conditions. And therefore, we do what we have said all these years we would do — namely, have a substantive dialogue with them. And so we will proceed with that."

In response to a question, he insisted that Arafat had accepted Israel's right to exist clearly. Arafat's remarks, Shultz said, had been "a flat statement."

He said that the "process of struggling to bring this out" of the PLO "was important for us to encourage because it isn't just the words, it's the fact that in this context — of all their internal debates — they finally managed to say these things. So that's what we wanted to have them do."

"What comes out of that dialogue," he continued, "I don't know. But I hope that it may be a contribution to finding our way to a peaceful situation."

Earlier PLO statements, Shultz said, had not been "cleancut." Arafat's news conference statements on Dec. 14, he added, were "clean — not hedged, not conditioned, not obscured. And so we have proceeded."

He said the U.S. would now be closely monitoring the PLO's record on terrorism. "It's not enough to say you're against terrorism," he said. "You've got to be against terrorism. So you shouldn't engage in it, you shouldn't support it. If it occurs anywhere, you should separate yourself from it, and so on."

* * *

Israel and its American supporters should not be very surprised by the dramatic U.S. decision to establish a "substantive dialogue" with the PLO. For years, Reagan, Bush and Shultz have made clear their readiness — even eagerness — to talk to the PLO once America's longstanding conditions were met.

Arafat, under strong pressure from Washington to utter the basic words, finally did so at a news conference in Geneva on Dec. 14 — at least to the satisfaction of the outgoing Reagan administration.

His comments were by no means perfect. In fact, some U.S. officials, after reading the original wire service accounts of his remarks, continued to maintain that the PLO leader was still being ambiguous.

But Shultz and other top administration officials, after careful consideration at a hastily-called meeting, thought that Arafat had gone about as far as Washington had asked, and a formal White House statement announcing the breakthrough was released in President Reagan's name.

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U.S. opposes, Canada abstains in ballot

UN votes to recognize "Palestinian state"

GENEVA (JTA) —

The UN General Assembly voted overwhelmingly last week to recognize the state of Palestine proclaimed by Yasser Arafat in Algiers last month.

It also voted to upgrade the status of Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organization at the United Nations.

The vote on the combined resolution was 104-2, with 36 abstentions, including Canada. Only the United States and Israel were opposed.

It followed by hours of announcement in Washington that the United States would hold a "substantive dialogue" with the PLO. The move was a stunning reversal of American policy, which since 1975 has ruled out any contact with the PLO.

But the United States objected strongly to the UN resolution, stressing that its new willingness to speak to the PLO in no way implied recognition of a Palestinian state.

The PLO, until now a non-government observer at the world organization, has been raised to the level of a "Palestine observer delegation," which is midway between an independence movement and a non-member state.

The resolution also "affirmed the need of the Palestinian people to exercise their sovereignty over their territory occupied since 1967."

On another ballot, the General Assembly voted 138-2, with two abstentions, for a resolution calling on the UN secretary-general to help convene an international conference under UN auspices, with the participation of all parties to the Middle East conflict, including the PLO "on an equal footing."

The resolution, introduced by the Soviet Union, asks for Israel's withdrawal from the territories and the dismantling of all Jewish settlements in the territories.

Both resolutions were assailed by Ambassador Joseph Petrone, the U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations in Geneva.

He maintained they "were unhelpful and inconsistent with the search for peace." Such one-sided resolutions will only make it more difficult to bring the concerned parties together at the very time America is prepared to engage in substantive talks with the PLO, the U.S. envoy argued.

He added, "our decision to engage in a dialogue with the PLO should not be taken to imply acceptance or recognition by the U.S.A. of an independent Palestinian state."

All of the Western European states, including pro-Palestinian Greece, abstained from voting to recognize Palestine, as did many Latin American and some African countries. But the United States was alone among the Western nations in rejecting the resolutions, indicating that it remains isolated from its most important allies on the basic issues of the Middle East.

Only two countries abstained from voting on the resolution for an international conference and the dismantling of Jewish settlements: Canada and Costa Rica.

The voting marked the conclusion of the annual UN debate on Palestine, which had been moved this year from New York to Geneva to allow Arafat to be heard.

* * *

Western European leaders expressed gratification over the American decision to open a "substantive dialogue" with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

French President Francois Mitterrand, speaking at the opening of the Franco-African Conference in Casablanca, Morocco, called the U.S. decision "real progress."

"Delighted" declared Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans.

Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek called Arafat's remarks in Geneva and the swift American response a "gratifying development."

* * *

Sweden played a decisive role in behind-the-scenes efforts to persuade Arafat to meet U.S. conditions for opening dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organization, Swedish officials here revealed.

The efforts intensified after the United States said that Arafat did not go far enough to satisfy American demands in his speech to the UN General Assembly session in Geneva.

After Arafat held a news conference, the Americans decided that he had complied with their demands for an explicit recognition of Israel and unequivocal renunciation of terrorism.

But it apparently took adroit diplomacy on the part of the Swedes to bring the detente about.

Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Anderssen said he and his aides met five times with Arafat and were in continual contact with the U.S. state department.

Anderssen said the Swedish task was to work out a compromise statement that would satisfy the Americans.

He said Arafat theoretically met American conditions in his General Assembly speech. But his remarks were not sharp or cohesive enough, and the fact it was delivered in Arabic added to the problem.

By contrast, Arafat spoke in English at his news conference last Wednesday. Anderssen and other top Swedish diplomats worked closely with the PLO leadership and the state department in the hours before that session.

They worked out Arafat's opening declaration, in which he clearly condemned terrorism, based his peace proposals on UN Resolutions 242 and 338 and asserted Israel's right to exist within recognized boundaries.

The PLO chief referred to Israel by name, affirming "the right of all parties concerned in the Middle East conflict to exist in peace and security, and, as I have mentioned, including the State of Palestine, Israel and other neighbors."

Still, observers here found nothing particularly different between Arafat's two presentations. Anderssen explained that what was new was Arafat's use of English and the clearcut, concise language of his remarks, which allowed the Americans to accept them.

Anderssen also disclosed that Sweden helped arrange two meetings in Stockholm. One, widely publicized, was held on Nov. 23 between Arafat and a delegation of five American Jews (CJN Dec. 15).

A similar meeting that took place there two weeks earlier was kept secret.

The Swedish foreign minister defined his country's role as a "postman" who "also wrote some of the mail." He stressed that "Israel knows that I am a true friend and, as such, I am entitled to my views and to my activities."

Arafat's new language

U.S. Jews claim key role

By WOLF BLITZER

WASHINGTON —

Rita Hauser, the New York lawyer who was among a group of five American Jews who recently met in Stockholm with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, played a decisive role in encouraging him to finally utter the key words which resulted in U.S. recognition.

In an interview with this reporter, she said that she was on the phone several times from her New York apartment on Dec. 13 and 14 with PLO spokesman Bassem Abu Sharif, appealing to him to convince Arafat to express at a news conference later in Geneva the required U.S. formulation recognizing Israel's right to exist.

She said that William Quandt, a former National Security Council staffer on the Middle East during the Carter administration, had also been deeply involved in drafting the specific news conference language demanded of Arafat. Quandt is a research scholar at the Brookings Institute, a private "think tank" in Washington.

Hauser said that the Swedish government had informed Secretary of State George Shultz the previous week that Arafat would meet the U.S. conditions during his address before the UN General Assembly in Geneva. But Arafat's speech did not include the specific language sought by Shultz.

During the following 24-hour period, Hauser said, she spoke on the phone with Abu Sharif several times. "For goodness sake," she recalled saying to him, "you have got to convince the chairman to say it exactly the way Shultz wants."

She said that Abu Sharif had called her back in the middle of the night to ask whether the U.S. would in fact recognize the PLO if Arafat should make the required statement at the news conference. She assured Abu Sharif that Shultz and President Reagan were serious and publicly committed to it.

"Clearly," Hauser said, "Arafat and his people didn't believe that Shultz would agree to deal with the PLO under almost any circumstances. I had to explode a bit and tell them (the PLO) that the President had already made a public statement promising to deal with the PLO if the conditions were met."

She said that Arafat consulted with Farouk Khadoumi, the PLO's senior foreign affairs official, and other members of the PLO's executive committee before making the final statements at the news conference — the statements accepted by Shultz as having met the U.S. conditions.

Clearly delighted, Hauser expressed satisfaction in what she described as her "small role" in achieving this U.S.-PLO breakthrough.

"Now," she said, "let's get on with the peace process."

8 Palestinians killed, Jews hurt in clashes

JERUSALEM (JTA) —

Eight Palestinians were killed in clashes with Israeli security forces in the West Bank and Gaza Strip over the weekend. Scores were reported wounded.

Several Jewish settlers were wounded in rock-throwing incidents, including a baby girl, who was hospitalized in serious condition.

The underground unified command of the Palestinian uprising declared a 3-day general strike in the territories to protest the killings. Most of the dead are Arab youths in their early 20s.

Despite the strike and violence, some 40,000 Arab school children in the West Bank returned to classes Sunday. Schools in Nablus, however, remained closed, as the Israel Defence Force clamped another curfew on the city, whose population of over 100,000 makes it the largest Arab town in the West Bank.

Curfews also were imposed on the West Bank town of Kalkilya, the Al-Amari refugee camp near Ramallah and most refugee camps in the Gaza Strip.

The escalation of violence and the death toll, the highest in several weeks, coincided with the first talks between the United States and the Pelestine Liberation Organization.

They occurred Friday in the ancient city of Carthage, south of Tunis, and were conducted between the U.S. ambassador to Tunisia, Robert Pelletreau Jr., and four PLO representatives. According to foreign media reports, the PLO delegation was headed by Yasser Abed Rabbo, a member of the organization's executive committee.

According to Israeli military sources, the violence in the territories was touched off by Arab extremists opposed to Arafat's diplomatic initiative.

But Arab sources said it was the Israelis who responded to Arafat's peace offer by taking harsher measures to suppress the intifada, the Palestinian uprising, which entered its second year nine days ago.

Pelletreau was designated by Secretary of State George Shultz to be the U.S. contact man with the PLO. Shultz authorized the talks last week in a sudden reversal of a 13-year ban on such contacts.

He did this after Arafat, in an address to the UN General Assembly in Geneva and at a news conference there, ostensibly met U.S. conditions for dialogue. (See separate story.)

The feeling here is that the supporters of Arafat, no less than the rejectionist, want to make clear that the intifada is continuing, regardless of any political momentum.

According to a report by Moshe Arad, Israel's ambassador to Washington, the U.S. government has informed Israel that the PLO does not regard attacks on military targets or the uprising in the territories to be terrorist acts.

Arafat's position on terrorism was explained to Arad by Richard Murphy, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs. The United States apparently made no objection to the PLO interpretation.

Rioting began in Nablus early Friday, apparently unrelated to what was transpiring in Tunis or in Washington.

It was touched off by the funeral of a 15-year-old Arab youngster, who died of wounds suffered three weeks ago in a skirmish with the IDF.

Israel arrests sabotage gang

TEL AVIV (JTA) —

Security forces have broken up an Arab sabotage gang in the Tel Aviv area.

It was headed by an Israeli Arab from Umm el-Fahm village, identified as Shahin Jibrin. Three other members were West Bank Arabs employed as waiters at a seaside restaurant in Tel Aviv.

They and affiliated gangs were linked to Al Fatah, the terrorist arm of Yasser Arafat's mainstream Palestine Liberation Organization, officials here said.

In addition, police arrested a Jew who is accused of supplying the gang with weapons. He was identified as Eli Masikha, from Aviel village, near Hadera.

According to the Tel Aviv police, eight telephone junction boxes were sabotaged during November, cutting off telephone service for thousands of subscribers.

The interrogation of suspects led to the apprehension of other saboteurs suspected of arson and spreading oil on heavily travelled highways to cause accidents.

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Editorial

The Canadian Jewish news

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Tevet 15, 5749 - Vayechi
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Deeds vs. words

There is no doubt that the American decision to initiate a dialogue with the PLO (begun in Tunis with the visit of the American ambassador to PLO headquarters) is a momentous change in United States foreign policy and it has important ramifications for Israel.

The change came about because after 14 years of calculated semantic ambiguity, Yasser Arafat finally learned the correct phrases that would earn him entry into American Mideast deliberations.

The problem, of course, is whether the changes in words reflect changes of the heart. Over the years it is not what the PLO has said that counts but rather what it has done in terms of the hundreds of acts of ruthless terrorism. Can simple words undo the indignity that was done to Leon Klinghofer of the Achille Lauro and to the countless other victims of PLO atrocities?

As Israeli ambassador Moshe Arad pointed out to Dan Rather of CBS Television, there is a great danger that in Arab perceptions the American-PLO agreement will be viewed in a spirit of triumphalism, despite George Shultz's clear statement about his country's "unflinching" support for Israel.

For decades the Arab states and the PLO have been trying to drive a wedge between Israel and its American ally. The endorsement of direct talks by the Reagan administration will be seen as evidence that the wedge has been put in place, even though the American decision conferred no recognition on the Palestinian state recently promulgated by the PNC in Algiers.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres put it well when he indicated in a CBC radio interview on Dec. 15 that after 40 years of Palestinian terrorism against Israel one would have to be foolish to believe that a few words uttered in Geneva have changed the situation.

In American eyes the PLO has apparently earned the right to dialogue with Washington's diplomats. In Israeli eyes that right has not been earned.

There is only one possible way in which the PLO's verbal gesture in Geneva can be translated into positive impulses. The PLO must cease its terroristic violence against Israel — not for an hour, not for a day, not for a year — but permanently. Until the deeds match the words Israel will be understandably reluctant to speak with the PLO.

Powerful dramas

It is not the practice of The CJN to editorialize on television programming. The criticism of Newton Minnow, the former head of the Federal Communications Commission in the United States, that television is a vast wasteland, appears all too true even today, more than two decades after he made the observation.

Occasionally, however, the medium does show its high potential and we wish to acknowledge two recent productions of ABC and CBC which merit praise.

Herman Wouk's *War And Remembrance*, while flawed in some aspects by poor casting and sentimentalizing, was a formidable attempt to reproduce the travail of Jewish people during the Second World War.

The Nazi war against the Jews is usually shunted off to the periphery in official accounts of the conflict, but in Wouk's powerful drama the persecution, degradation and annihilation of European Jewry are portrayed in realistic tones.

We know of few films or television programs that have supplied such visual detail about the concentration camps and their murderous apparatus as that furnished by the Wouk presentation. It is to the credit of the author and the director that no attempts was made to cosmetize the savagery of the death camp experience.

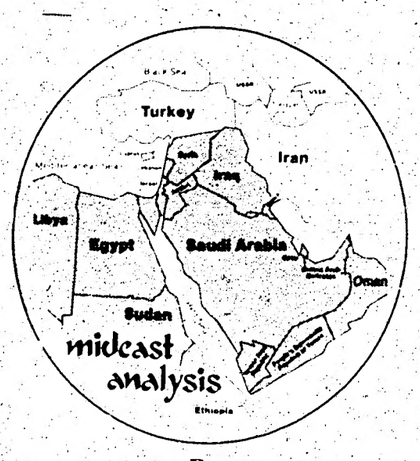
Anna Sandor's *Two Men*, shown recently on CBC television, does not focus on scenes of physical barbarism but extracts from the Holocaust the dilemma of a survivor who, 40 years after the war, recognizes a Nazi collaborator who was responsible for the death of his family in Hungary.

John Vernon's inspired portrait of the survivor takes the viewer through the complex skein of emotions experienced by an individual who seeks retribution for unspeakable crimes but who is frustrated by the immobility of a legal system which places obstacles in the path of justice.

Sandor's *Two Men* is also distinguished by psychological insight into the characters of both the victim and the perpetrator which shows that guilt and innocence wear many different faces.

We are pleased that television has the capacity, now and then, to probe deeply into history and into the mind of man.

Palestinian question dominated Mideast developments in 1988



By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Yasser Arafat and King Hussein of Jordan are two of the most important protagonists in the Middle East this year. [RNS photo]

The Palestinian question, long the bane of Israel, dominated developments in the Middle East in 1988.

The Gulf War, the most fearsome ever in the region, came a close second, with the Israeli election not far behind.

Despite rationalizations and wishful thinking on the part of Israel's leadership, the Palestinian uprising did not fizzle out. Initially labelled as a mere "riot," the *intifada* has in fact turned into an epoch-making event, with far-reaching political repercussions for both Israel and the Arabs.

It is generally agreed that the *intifada*, which has taken its place beside such foreign words as *glasnost* and *perestroika*, was the net result of several factors — Palestinian opposition to, and frustration with, Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip; the Palestinians' longing for sovereignty; the preoccupation of the Arab world with the Iran-Iraq War, which diverted attention away from the basic struggle between Israel and the Arab world; the inaction of the superpowers.

Some analysts believe that the Nov. 25, 1987 Palestinian hand-glider attack on an Israeli army camp in Galilee, which resulted in the deaths of six Israeli soldiers, may have emboldened the Palestinians in the territories to rise up.

Revolt result of several factors

The actual revolt was touched off by the murder of an Israeli civilian in the Gaza Strip and the apparently accidental death of four Arab workers whose van was hit by an Israeli army vehicle a few days later.

From the start, it was an unequal battle, with the Palestinians throwing rocks and stones and the Israelis responding with tear gas and live fire. As the casualties on the Palestinian side mounted, Israel was bombarded by criticism and condemnation.

Israel's handling of the widespread disturbances opened up fissures in Israel and in Diaspora Jewish communities, heightened tension among its 750,000 Arab citizens and tarnished its relationship with Western countries, including Canada. In more concrete terms, the insurrection damaged Israel's already fragile economy.

More than any other event in living memory, the *intifada* gave the Palestinians a sense of pride, solidarity and peoplehood, and propelled the Palestinian issue into the upper reaches of the political agenda. Golda Meir's offhanded remark to the effect that there are no Palestinians rang extremely hollow now.

Within much of the Israeli elite, a recognition grew that the Palestinian problem could only be solved through political means. Extremists like Ariel Sharon, who claims he could crush the *intifada* in two weeks, seemed out of touch with reality.

In Amman, the *intifada* led to a wholesale reassessment by Jordan of its relations with the Palestinians in the territories.

As late as 1½ years ago, there was serious talk about a West Bank condominium shared by Israel and Jordan. With Israel's tacit encouragement, King Hussein had unveiled a development plan for the West Bank. It appeared as if the two nations, which observe a de facto peace agreement, would be able to work out some kind of practical arrangement that would satisfy Israel's security needs and Jordan's pan-Arabic obligations.

But this was not to be. In the waning days of July, after weeks of speculation, King Hussein made several dramatic announcements. After cancelling his much-vaunted development plan, which had attracted little Arab support, he severed legal and administrative ties with the West Bank, thereby relinquishing his longstanding claim to it.

Realizing that a fundamental change had occurred in the territories since the uprising, the pragmatic monarch threw the ball into the PLO's court, challenging Yasser Arafat, the PLO chieftain, to assume responsibility for the West Bank. By doing so, King Hussein automatically enhanced the status of the PLO, which is widely recognized as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinians, and probably undermined the so-called Jordanian option favored by Israel's Labor Party to defuse the Palestinian question.

Within the PLO, ferment brewed.

On the eve of the Arab summit in Algiers, Arafat's spokesman, Bassam Abu Sharif, released a remarkably conciliatory statement on the Arab-Israeli conflict. "The Palestinians," he said, "want... lasting peace and security for themselves and the Israelis because no one can build his future on the ruins of another's."

In mid-November, at the Palestine National Council meeting in Algiers, Arafat accepted United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338 as well as the principle of partition. Later, in Stockholm, he said he accepted Israel's existence. Before the UN in Geneva, Arafat failed to break new ground. But at a subsequent news conference, he clarified matters to the satisfaction of the U.S.

Most observers regarded Arafat's statements as steps in the right direction, although the Israeli government characterized them as a "campaign of camouflage" by the PLO to deceive world opinion on its true aims.

Whatever interpretation one chose to embrace, there was no doubt that the PLO's diplomatic offensive prettified its image, won over the U.S., put Israel on the defensive and may have set into motion a historic process that will result in eventual negotiations between Israel and its nemesis, the PLO.

After eight years of fighting, Iran and Iraq finally agreed to a ceasefire.

The Gulf War, which caused hundreds of thousands of deaths and tens of billions of dollars worth of property damage, was the bloodiest since World War II.

Preceded by a series of border incidents, the war got under way in earnest following Iraq's invasion of Iran in September of 1980.

The war turned on competing claims of sovereignty in the Shatt al-Arab waterway and along the border Iraq shares with Iran.

Saddam Hussein, the Iraqi leader, calculated he could win a relatively quick victory. Iran, boiling over with Islamic fundamentalist revolutionary fervor in the wake of the monarchy's downfall, seemed unstable and vulnerable.

Iraq, far better equipped than Iran, grabbed the momentum, seizing thousands of square kilometres of Iranian territory. By 1982, however, Iran had turned the tide. The war developed into a bitter stalemate, reminiscent of World War I. Civilians were affected, as was tanker traffic in the Persian Gulf.

The U.S., which tilted toward Iraq, got militarily involved as it clashed with Iran. After a deadly missile bombardment of Iranian cities, Iraq took the offensive again and drove Iran out of Iraqi-occupied areas.

After these setbacks, and the shooting down of an Iranian airliner by a U.S. missile boat, Iran decided to honor a United Nations ceasefire plan it had contemptuously dismissed for one year.

Iran honors UN ceasefire

Peace talks have begun under the auspices of the UN. But years may elapse before the warring parties reach agreement on fundamental issues.

For Israel, the war tied up two potentially enormous adversaries. However, after eight years of slogging it out with Iran, the Iraqi armed forces had grown tremendously and had become battle-hardened and comparatively sophisticated, particularly its air force. These are considerations Israel can only ignore at its own peril.

The election in Israel ended in deadlock, but with religious parties holding the balance of power and demanding drastic changes in the status quo in return for their support. Likud's coalition talks with the *dati* and with ultra right-wing secular parties bogged down in a welter of mutual recrimination, forcing Likud to negotiate with Labor in an attempt to resurrect a national unity government.

The shameless bickering and the blatant horsetrading demonstrated to many Israelis yet again the need to reform the electoral system. Under the present system, Israel can either opt for a largely ineffective unity government which is more or less paralyzed in foreign policy, or for a far-right, religiously-tinged government which alienates about half its population, the Diaspora and otherwise friendly governments in the West.

Opinion

Committed to free, democratic society

NJCRC plays a pivotal role in Canadian Jewry

TORONTO –

Perhaps no other committee of Canadian Jewish Congress better reflects the national character of the Parliament of Canadian Jewry than the National Joint Community Relations Committee (NJCRC), which attempts to ensure that the Jewish community of Canada is secure and that its status and rights are maintained and advanced. The committee, under the chairmanship of Joseph J. Wilder of Winnipeg, aims at nothing less than "to preserve and strengthen a society that is free, open, democratic, and pluralistic."

The NJCRC, staffed by a national director Manuel Prutschi and his associate Bernie M. Farber, includes the chairman, one additional lay volunteer and a professional of each of Congress's regional joint community relations committees. Thus, representatives from the Pacific, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and the Atlantic regions, gather on a regular basis to discuss community relations issues affecting Canada's entire Jewish mosaic.

Many issues at the centre of Canadian Jewry have been on the NJCRC agenda: the Meech Lake Accord, inter-ethnic relations and countering Christian missionary activity. Certainly over the last few years, the hate trials of Ernst Zundel, James Keegstra, and Don Andrews and Robert Smith, have been brought forward in an attempt to discuss strategies and assist the various regions, which had the ongoing responsibility of ensuring that the Jewish community's concerns were being heard during the course of these trials.

Both the committee's chairman and staff have been involved in travelling to Congress's various regions in order to update regional executives, present workshops on community relations issues and to assist in sensitizing Canadian Jewish leaders to such issues as anti-semitism and its effect on our Canadian multicultural fabric. Recently, for example, Wilder briefed Jewish community leaders in Montreal on the status of anti-semitism in Canada today, a talk that was extremely well received.

The last NJCRC meeting was held in Montreal on Oct. 30. Following reports from Congress regions across the country, a number of vital issues were discussed and strategies developed.

One matter that has come before some regional JCRCs is that of religious education in the public schools. During discussions at the NJCRC gathering, it was felt that while there were various practices in the provinces, the recent decision by the Ontario Court of Appeal, which struck down the regulations mandating religious exercises in public schools, might serve as a springboard for other provinces to attain similar results.

Nonetheless, representatives from the regions noted that it would be very difficult to reach a national consensus on the issue, given the variances in provincial laws. It was decided, however, that the National JCRC would provide overall coordination and relevant materials in dealing with the matter, as it applies to the regions.

Joseph J. Wilder

result of discussions, public libraries and researchers across Canada are being canvassed to assist in developing a definitive policy in this area. In the meantime, National JCRC will continue to work with the Alberta region in an attempt to deal specifically with the Edmonton problem.

The NJCRC also took a close look at the Malcolm Ross situation in the Atlantic Region. Ross, a Moncton, NB, teacher, has written a number of books and articles attacking Jews and Judaism. The Moncton school board has been reluctant to take action on the matter. Therefore, David Attis, national secretary of CJC, proceeded with a complaint against the District 15 school board, based on a section of the New Brunswick Human Rights Act that guarantees every citizen of the province a prejudice-free public service.

Attis contends that the school board, by employing a known and active propagandist like Ross, has "poisoned" the school environment, thus preventing his own children from availing themselves of educational facilities in an atmosphere free of discrimination. Wilder indicated that the NJCRC, in conjunction with legal resource people, has assisted the complainant in the case. It has also briefed media on the issue.

Hate propaganda legislation has always been a matter of importance to the Canadian Jewish community. With two separate provincial courts coming out with different decisions on the constitutionality of Section 281 of the Criminal Code, the NJCRC is gearing up for an appeal of the law to the Supreme Court of Canada. It was decided, Wilder noted, that on the NJCRC's recommendation, CJC will seek intervenor status in order to ensure that the perspective of the victimized community is brought to the fore.

Further on the issue of court interventions, the NJCRC decided to intervene in a case dealing with an employee of the Central Alberta Dairy Pool. The employee was a Sabbath observing member of the World Wide Church of God, who refused to work Saturdays. The Alberta Human Rights Commission took up his case, but the Alberta Court of Appeal ruled against the employee and the Commission, arguing that work scheduling was a "bona fide job requirement."

According to Wilder, the Court of Appeal decision is seen as a step backward from similar decisions of the Supreme Court of Canada, which have made great strides in protecting workers from employment discrimination due to religious observance. Canadian Jewish Congress will be seeking leave, along with the Seventh Day Adventist Church, from the Supreme Court of Canada to intervene in the Alberta Dairy Pool matter. Wilder further noted that John I. Laskin, the respected constitutional lawyer, has agreed to act for Congress on this intervention.

Proselytizing and specifically, the targeting of the Jewish community by Christian fundamentalists and evangelical groups for the purposes of conversion, was discussed in detail. National JCRC staff have been asked to assemble a memorandum outlining those groups of which Jewish communities across the country should be made aware. This memorandum, it should be stressed, will deal particularly with those who attempt to use their profession of love for Israel as a way to infiltrate the Jewish community, with the ultimate goal of conversion.

The NJCRC plays a pivotal role as a national Jewish committee in overseeing and coordinating community relations issues affecting Canadian Jewry. The ability to elicit opinion and map strategies with a wide variety of Jewish laymen and professionals on these and other issues helps Canadian Jewish Congress advocate for a vision of Canada that is characterized by respect for all racial, religious and ethnic communities.

Meech Lake, Keegstra found a place on its agenda

Representatives from Edmonton brought to the table a significant local problem regarding the city's public library, a problem that might indeed have broader implications. It had come to the attention of the Alberta Region of CJC that the Edmonton Public Library carried an inordinate number of anti-semitic/Holocaust denial books on its public access shelves. At the request of the Alberta Region, the NJCRC undertook a study to determine if these books could be found in other Canadian libraries.

It was discovered that although some of the titles were found in university research libraries, the Edmonton Public Library was the only municipal public library in Canada to stock the Holocaust denial works, with the exception of a much larger public library, which stocked one title, shelving it in its "for reference only" section.

This raised the larger question of the acquisition, cataloguing, classification and access to anti-semitic materials in libraries in general. As a

Zionist parties picked up support

Arab voters split among themselves

By
CARL ALPERT

It is not too late to give some attention to the remarkable phenomenon of the Arab vote in the recent Israeli elections.

If the Arab citizens of Israel were to make full and planned use of their electoral strength, they would be able to send 13 or 14 members to the Knesset, constituting a bloc no less important than that of the Jewish religious parties in the negotiations for setting up a coalition to form the government. However, the Arabs are split among themselves more fiercely than the Jewish parties.

It might have been expected that in an atmosphere of Arab nationalism intensified by the intifada, the Arab citizen would cast his vote for parties which reflect extreme views, though still technically acceptable within the framework of Israel democracy. As a matter of fact there was indeed a small swing toward such Arab parties. Whereas in the last election in 1984, only 49% of the Arabs voted for what might be called pro-Arab parties, this time the vote went up to 59%. Thus the new Knesset will contain seven members representing these parties against six last time. They are, five from the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality (a fancy name for the Communists); two from the Progressive List for Peace; one from the Arab Democratic Party, a 1-man slate headed by Abdel Wahab Derousha, formerly a Knesset member of the Labor Party.

We must hasten to point out that the first two parties named include Jews as well. The pro-Arab platforms undoubtedly drew the support of many Jewish voters as well, especially those inclined to the extreme left.

All of this pertains only to Arab citizens within the State of Israel. Arabs in the territories are not citizens and did not vote.

What happened to all the other Arab votes? Very simply, they were cast in favor of Jewish Zionist parties. Perusal of the polling results in Arab towns and villages reveals that the larger Zionist parties received surprising support, with a smattering of votes for even the smallest of the Jewish slates. The National Religious Party got about 8,000 Arab votes nationally, and it is estimated that in all, concentrated Arab support was responsible for electing at least siz Zionist candidates on the major lists.

The village of Faradise, not too far from Haifa, on the coastal road, offers an impressive case study. In all, 1,791 votes were cast there, with the following results: Derousha's Arab Democratic Party, 834; Likud, 253 (!); Labor, 178; National Religious, 153; the Communists, 79; Mapam, 67; Citizens' Rights, 62; Progressive List, 23. The remainder were scattered.

One can perhaps understand why leftist-inclined Jews would vote for an Arab party, but why should Arabs vote for a Zionist party? For one thing, it should be noted that about 80% of the Druze votes went to Jewish parties. As for the others, their support of Zionist blocs may be aseribed to a variety of reasons.

A great many of the Arab citizens of Israel are realists and pragmatists. Whatever may happen to the territories, and irrespective of their own views in the matter, they have come to the conclusion that their own destiny is irrevocably bound up with that of the State of Israel. As a minority within the state, it is to their advantage to curry favor with the government and demonstrate their loyalty and support. When the ballots are counted, they want it to be seen that their village expressed support for the party which, in their opinion, would run the government. Hence the strong vote for Likud and Labor.

Another vital factor is the social composition of the Arab community. Despite some erosion, it is still highly traditional, and the religious-spiritual-moral influences, without any nationalistic sentiment, are still strong. These families find more in common with the religious principles of the National Religious Party than with the Arab Communists or the nationalist slogans on either side. The NRP is aware of this reservoir of support, and in each election has cmapaigned vigorously among the Arabs.

There is perhaps a cynical factor as well. For years, it was the National Religious Party which held the portfolio of the ministry of the interior, which is responsible for all kinds of regulations, licences and permits affecting the daily life of the citizenry. The Arabs have learned to be deferential to those who are in a position to hand out favors.

In retrospect, it should be noted that the Arabs were able to show real electoral strength only in the early years of the state. The 2nd Knesset, elected in 1951, contained 10 representatives of the pro-Arab parties, and the 3rd Knesset, elected in 1955, had 11, yet we must not forget that these included Jews as well.

The most prominent of these Jews in the present Knesset are Meir Wilner and Charlie Biton of the Communists, and Mati Peled, of the Progressive List for Peace.

Opinion

Conditions for Jews in Soviet Union are improving

By
SHELDON KIRSHNER

Under the impact of Mikhail Gorbachev's reformist policies, the Soviet Union is gradually opening itself up to much-needed change.

On the domestic and foreign fronts, Moscow is showing a new face, and this is best seen in its evolving policy toward its sizeable Jewish minority.

Whatever ulterior motives or reasons the Soviets may have in improving conditions for Jews, the fact of the matter is that things are changing — a point to which the president of the World Jewish Congress, Edgar Bronfman, referred in a series of public appearances in Toronto earlier this month.

Another Jewish leader who wholeheartedly agrees with Bronfman's assessment is Isi Leibler, president of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry. Leibler, like Bronfman, played a major role in two of the most extraordinary developments in recent decades — the back-to-back decisions by the Soviet government to legalize the teaching of Hebrew and to allow the establishment of Jewish cultural/community centres in Moscow and wherever else they are warranted in that vast nation.

For a Western Jew accustomed to unfettered freedom of religion, culture and association, this may not sound like much. But to Soviet Jews, the picture is quite different.

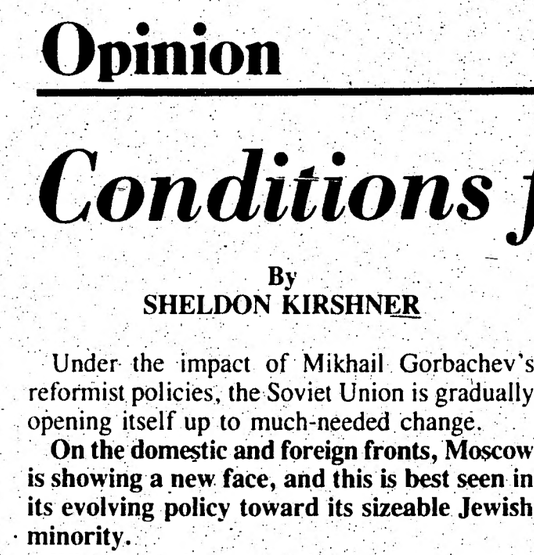
After decades of repression, crushing restrictions and forced assimilation, the Soviet Union appears to have adopted a refreshingly new attitude toward its Jewish citizens — an attitude that is boldly reflected in the legitimization of Hebrew and Moscow's apparent recognition of Jewish cultural rights.

On the eve of the first meeting in 18 months of the International Council for Soviet Jewry, held in Jerusalem from Nov. 30 to Dec. 2, Leibler and a group of Australian Jews were in the Soviet Union, holding meetings with top-level Soviet officials and with local Jews.

On the basis of his discussions, Leibler produced a report for the International Council for Soviet Jewry entitled *Turning Point for Soviet Jewry? A Contemporary Challenge for World Jewry.*

His conclusions, if borne out, may well indicate that profound changes have begun to affect Soviet Jewry.

"The world of Soviet Jewry is changing more rapidly than at any time since the (1917) Bolshevik revolution, even more rapidly than in the heady days of (Jewish) revival and emigration during the late 1960s and early 1970s," he writes.



Mikhail Gorbachev...agent of change.

Officially-sanctioned Hebrew classes are spreading across the country, while cultural centres are springing up in major cities. Theatre and concert groups are forming to receive Jewish artists visiting the Soviet Union, and there is a burgeoning interest in Jewish books.

Leibler was struck by the blossoming of secular Jewish culture, which, he claims, was in decline a year ago.

"The scope of this revival is most impressive. What is even more remarkable is the large number of Jews involved in Jewish culture even though they have no intention of emigrating. This is a direct consequence of the liberalization of Jewish culture."

The ubiquitous KBG, he hastens to add, is not intefering with this trend.

Leibler says that new "religious freedoms" make it possible for young Jews to study and practice Judaism, and now the task facing Soviet Jewry is to train a new generation of rabbis and cantors.

The Lubavitch movement, he notes, is spearheading religious activism. But it would be a "tragedy," he warns, if Lubavitch became the only religious group to represent Judaism in the Soviet Union.

Isi Leibler (left) is seen with Edgar Bronfman (right) and Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke.

Leibler estimates there are fewer than 100 long-term Refusenik families awaiting exit visas. And while strenuous efforts should be exerted to obtain their release, he observes that the Soviet Jewry movement is not "a travel agency."

As he puts it: "The transfer of one Diaspora to another... is not a pressing national Jewish objective. This is especially true if the overwhelming majority of Jews wanting to leave... do not want to go to Israel, do not particularly care about their Jewish identity, and have doubtful prospects of even remaining Jews once they end up in the West."

He disputes the contention that hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews wish to settle in Israel.

Leibler reports there has been a "dramatic" elimination of "vicious" government-sponsored anti-semitism from the media. But he believes that popular anti-semitism is "very strong."

Pamyat, the anti-semitic Russian nationalist group, contributes toward Jewish consciousness in a negative manner. It's a factor that unites Jews of all stripes. Pamyat, whose principal stronghold Leibler claims is in Leningrad, is "contained." In his view, Pamyat is not nearly as dangerous as the "more sophisticated" state anti-semitism of the pre-Gorbachev era.

Discrimination against Jews in the professions and universities, a common problem in recent years, is being rapidly "phased out" and even eliminated in some key areas.

* * *

Leibler is convinced that the Soviet Jewry movement could do with a little *glasnost* of its own.

"We must dramatically review our priorities," he says. "We need a massive diversion of resources, human and financial, away from the emphasis on emigration to a new emphasis on creating, nurturing and maintaining Jewish life in the Soviet Union. That is the real challenge.

"And if we fail, Gorbachev may, without trying, succeed where Stalin and Soviet anti-semites failed in the past. If this happens we will witness the self-destruction of Soviet Jewry.

"If we cannot succeed in promoting Jewish values among at least an elite group of Soviet Jews who will maintain the spark of Judaism, there will be no aliya, there will be no emigration and there will be no Jews."

"We're advancing Jewish unity": Porush

RABBI MENACHEM PORUSH, a leader of the Agudat Israel Party in Israel, who has served in the Knesset for over 30 years, regards himself as an authority on the Who is a Jew Problem and suggests in this article "Why Israel is Going to Amend the Law of Return."

* * *

Rabbi Menachem Porush

JERUSALEM —

Attorney Schwartz invites accountant Bloom to lunch. He knows that Bloom is observant of the dietary laws, and so he makes sure to choose a venue that permits his colleague to accept his invitation comfortably.

In short Schwartz is a mentsh. He is considerate of Bloom's feelings. He doesn't rant and rail about how he was coerced into a stifling experience due to Bloom's narrow-minded obsession, and he doesn't threaten to boycott the accountant.

If societies recognized this simple rule of inter-personal relationships, there would be no misunderstanding today regarding the correction in the Law of Return that the new Knesset has every intention of adopting very soon.

We proponents of this vital change are not looking for a fight with large numbers of our Diaspora brothers and sisters. We love all Jews deeply. Our efforts are aimed precisely at ensuring a core unity amongst our scattered remnants by insisting that a single standard be operational in the Jewish state, and not several standards — a recipe for instant disunity.

Every rational person recognizes that a sovereign state has the obligation of defining that most fundamental criterion, "who is a citizen?" according to some uniform set of regulations and characteristics. What confusion would prevail if the American embassy in Rome would issue citizenship papers and a passport to a baby born there of two U.S. parents, while the embassy in Paris were to grant the same documentation to anyone who could recite the Pledge of Allegiance by heart and who knew who the first President had been.

Make no mistake. Israel already has its standard. The Law of Return, which grants automatic Israeli citizenship to any Jew who so desires that status is a wonderful statement of Israel's function (as a refuge for all her potential citizens) and fate (as a Jewish light unto the nations). It also demands, however, that we define that emotive term, "Who is a Jew" so the law can make sense.

The Knesset — not some claque of white-bearded rabbis such as myself — has declared that amongst other criteria, a Jew is someone born of a Jewish mother. When the Reform movement declared by fiat that a Jew is also a person born of a Jewish father, as it did a few years ago, it is they who consciously challenged not only millenia-old and proven standards, but also the legislative body of the State of Israel. That is certainly their prerogative to do, but it is nothing short of chutzpah to criticize us for simply fine-tuning our law when it is they who have raced beyond the pale of normative Judaism in adopting standards that would make Attorney Schwartz blush in shame.

I love and respect all Jews, and I believe in my heart that my 30 years of service in the Knesset has contributed in some way to our accomplishments to date. I am deeply troubled by the bitterness engendered by this issue in the Diaspora.

Amending the Law of Return to include Jews who are converted in a traditionally acceptable manner is a peculiar issue with tremendous potential for damage. On most issues, Israelis and Jews elsewhere agree, such as opposition to arms deals for hostile Arab nations. On other issues there is a division of opinion in both places, such as whether to build or not build more Jewish settlements in Judea and Samaria. But on this matter and almost this one alone, there is a nasty polarity, whereby most Israelis accept the need for one universally acceptable standard, and large segments of the Diaspora view this as an affront to their own positions.

If it were not such a central key to our own Jewish self-definition, believe me, we would drop it like a hot potato. If we agree that there is room for only one set of criteria, then is it so difficult to accept that at least in this instance, the standard must be one that is acceptable to all Jews, and not just to some (as the Reform patrilineal ruling which Conservative and Orthodox — and many Reform Jews reject)?

It is only natural that the citizens of Israel determine who is a Jew in this context, and who is entitled to automatic as opposed to naturalized citizenship. A large plurality of Israelis feel that only Orthodox conversion is sufficient insofar as the Law of Return is concerned. A Knesset majority will very soon reflect this.

We are not attacking Reform and Conservative Jews or Rabbis, God forbid. We want them to understand. We are disturbed by threats to stop UJA contributions, if this law is passed, or to ban Knesset members who support it from Reform temples. We do not even find it arrogant that Jews who do not live in Israel wish to dictate our policies to us, through coercion as well as persuasion. We are happy that they care enough to want to have impact on us.

The bottom line remains, however, that we are the ones on the front lines. Not just against our Arab foes but also in the battle against assimilation and fragmentation. By clarifying the Law of Return to confirm that Jews are those who are born of Jewish mothers or who have become Jews according to halachic standards, history will record we have taken a major step forward in advancing Jewish unity, not fragmenting it.

Opinion

Changing electoral system top priority

If I were an Israeli leader, I would first . . .

By
J. B. SALSBERG

Shalom, my beloved readers! I'm back from my escapist journey to the past and all I have learned is that you can't escape reality. The world refuses to depart from its course just because you and I, people of sensitive natures, find that course very hard to take . . .

J. B. Salsberg

So, I'm back, and what did I find on my return? I found that Israel is still without a new government although the general election for a new Knesset took place on Nov. 1!

Not only did Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir fail to form a majority government during the 21 days that President Chaim Herzog gave him, in accord with Israel's law, but he asked the President for another 21 days to try again.

In case you have forgotten I want to remind you that in the first effort Shamir attempted to form a coalition government of the Right; without Labor that elected only one member less than his Likud.

In that frantic attempt Shamir was ready to capitulate to the extremist religious groups who insisted on the enactment of the divisive Who is a Jew amendment. That caused an international Jewish uproar the like of which has never before been seen. The Jewish world was at the brink of a tragic, historic split.

That halted the "deal" that had been agreed to between Shamir and the "ultra Orthodox."

Halted, but not demolished.

After exhausting the allotted 21 days without results, Shamir has now asked the President for more time. The angry and critical President had no alternative and agreed to grant Shamir the extra three weeks. The huckstering with the small groups that have a few members in the Knesset continues as these lines are written.

That demeaning political exercise reveals, of course, the unhappy divisiveness of Israeli society at present. But it also reveals the weaknesses of Israel's electoral system.

Ben-Gurion and the leaders of the Agudah (a non-Zionist but pro-Israel Orthodox body) and the Mizrachi (an Orthodox Zionist political party), did not envision the terrible splintering of the religious sector that developed later.

Instead of the electoral system that exists, with some variations, in most democratic countries (as in Canada and the U.S.), where candidates are elected directly by the people on a constituency basis, they, instead, chose the nationwide selection of party slates, rather than individuals.

This made it possible for minuscule parties to pick up enough votes around the country to elect one or two members to the Knesset. Such small entities had votes to offer to the two major political forces (Labor and Likud) in return for special concessions that they sought. The political huckstering became unstoppable.

So what would I do if I were a leader (or at least a macher) in Israel?

I would refuse to enter into any coalition unless the one with whom I was about to collaborate and the party that he or she belongs to would publicly sign a commitment to a democratic procedure for changing the present nationwide electoral system into one that would provide for the direct election of every district's (or constituency, as we call it) member to the Knesset. And I would educate the electorate to keep their Knesset members accountable to them year-round.

I would also appeal to Israel's religious sector to work within and through the two major political parties, Labor and Likud. Yes, as is the case in Britain, in the U.S. and as it is in Canada. The real religious interests might even gain from such an arrangement.

Oh, yes, if I were a big macher in Israel I would also advocate Shimon Peres' realistic projection of a smaller, **but Jewish state,** rather than a larger "historic" Israel that would, within 20 years, be a state with an Arab majority.

Why such a prediction? It is the prediction of demographic experts in Israel as well as in New York.

What is the prediction based on? It is based — firstly, on the inescapable fact that Jews in the Diaspora do not break down the doors of Israel to get into the promised land. And, secondly, because the birth rate of Arab families is twice as high as those of Jewish families. These are hard facts that only the foolish or the blind will ignore.

Well, there are many more grandiose things I would do if I were a leader or macher in Israel. But unfortunately I am not. In fact, I'm only a humble, well meaning scribe who, in addition, labors as diligently and as dedicatedly as possible in the vineyards of Canadian Jewry — a relatively small but not insignificant portion of the world Jewish map.

But, being what I am I'm not ready to lay down my sword and say what will be, will be.

So, what do you say, my loyal readers? Should we assume that we actually are leaders and machers in Israel, even though we live in Canada? I'm willing, for the sake of Israel and for the sake of world Jewish society. Are you willing?

I hope that you are.

After all, if not we, then who? And if not now, then when?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters are welcome if they are in English or French, no more than 200 words, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and handwritten signature.

* * *

MOCKS ARAB "POT OF GALL"

The Arab so-called peace plan is a concoction of subterfuge, self-delusion and ambiguous doubletalk mixed in a pot of unmitigated gall.

I am convinced that, as long as Israel remains militarily steadfast in the ideals of Zionism, and unwilling to compromise when halfbaked promises are made, real peace will one day come.

Leonard Smith
Toronto

* * *

ULTRA-ORTHODOX ENRAGE HER

Re your Dec. 1 report from Jerusalem headed "Election of Speaker marred by name-calling" and subheaded "Shilansky 1st Holocaust survivor to occupy Knesset post":

I was outraged to read that, during the singing of Israel's *Hatikvah* anthem, "the ultra-Orthodox were conspicuously silent."

If the ultra-Orthodox do not feel loyal to Israel, what are they doing there?

Paula Feigelsohn
Toronto

* * *

ORTHODOX RABBI ANGERS HIM

I am angered by the implication made by your Orthodox columnist, Rabbi Moses Burak, that there are expendables and non-expendables among Israel's young men who must fight against Judaism's enemies.

Why am I so very angry? Because among the expendables he'd include my son, my nephew, my cousin's son; and the offspring of all my comrades-in-arms all across the desert and up into Europe, so many, many years ago.

I speak as a member of the Montreal Post of the Jewish War Veterans of Canada.

If Burak has his favored yeshiva students' welfare so much at heart, he should at least tell them that flak jackets will give them much better protection than prayer books, if bullets ever start flying their way.

Ralph Charad
Montreal

* * *

SAYS WE'RE ANTI-ORTHODOX

I'm a Conservative Jewess and I belong to a small Toronto synagogue. But I don't appreciate all this knocking around of Orthodox Jews I've been reading in The CJN.

Your paper is really becoming more and more biased.

The truth is I'm begining to feel embarrassed about being Conservative — especially with your columnist Elaine Kahn being Conservative, too. I'd rather not be in the same boat as hers.

She not only ridicules Orthodoxy, but also the Lubavitcher Rebbe whom I admire a great deal.

Name Withheld
Toronto

* * *

URGES AID TO ARMENIANS

I am a Turkish-born Jew urging your readers to send aid to Armenians who have been struck by the recent earthquake.

My Sephardic father, who was born in Greece, told me many stories of helping raise two orphan Armenian boys. I therefore have always felt that I had two Christian Armenian brothers.

Now, a retired pensioner of 66, I realize we should help all disaster-struck Armenians, whether they be Jews, Christians or Moslems.

We are all humans and we should not let them suffer as we did under a maniac Christian called Hitler.

I urge you to join me in sending financial aid, as well as clothing, non-perishable canned food, air mattresses, wheel chairs, gloves, bandages, and even needles to Armenian Earthquake Relief Fund, Armenian Community Centre, 45 Hallcrown Place, Toronto M2J 4Y4. The phone number is (416) 491-2900.

Y. Victor Benyes
Toronto

* * *

TOURISTS, DON'T SHUN ISRAEL!

I have just returned from Israel, and I am ashamed — ashamed of my brothers and sisters who stay away from Israel.

In hotels and guest houses, I met Japanese, Germans, Christian pilgrims — but hardly any Jews. How can that happen?

I cannot imagine that Jews are more afraid of the stone throwers on the West Bank than other people.

It must be clear to everybody that, in spite of the news reports, disturbances are confined to certain areas, and do not touch the rest of the land.

I have travelled extensively in the Galilee, not to speak of Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and surroundings. There is not a vestige of discomfort; not a moment of fear.

Some of my friends are angry at Israeli politics; some are highly offended at the lately promised "laws." But surely none of our criticism justifies punishment for Eretz Israel by staying away and severely damaging the economy and prestige of our nation.

The land of Israel is lovely and crying out for our support. And while we are there, we can certainly do more good than by staying away in protest!

Alice Sorger
Hamilton, Ont.

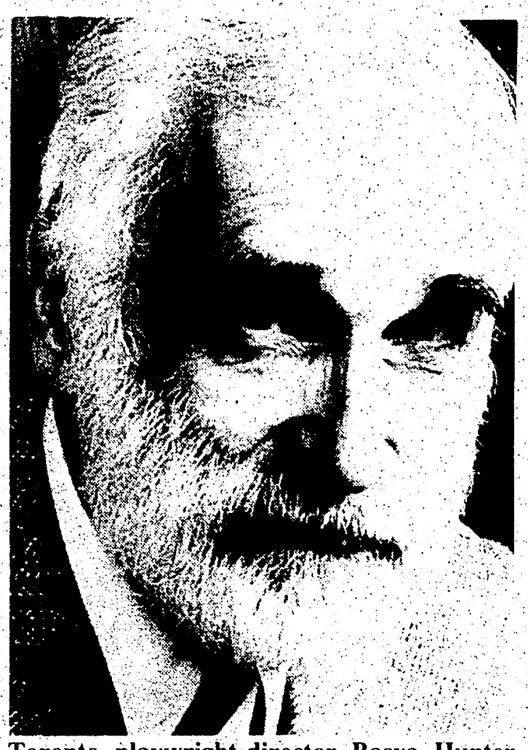
* * *

SEEKS WAR ORPHAN SURVIVORS

I am doing research for a book about the child survivors who came to Canada under the War Orphans Project and would appreciate hearing from anyone who wishes to tell his or her story, be they a former child survivor or someone who participated in helping them. I am also interested in hearing from anyone who knew the late Greta Fisher.

Fraidie Martz
3534 W. Nineteenth Ave.
Vancouver, BC
V6S 1C4.

* * *



Toronto playwright-director Basya Hunter lauds review of Freud drama as performed by Harold Gould.

LAUDS SENSITIVE FREUD REVIEW

Just a few words to tell you how much I appreciated Frank Rasky's sensitive review of *Freud*, which he rightly calls an "exhilarating drama of a Jewish genius," playing at the Leah Posluns Theatre.

It is not often that a theatre gives us the opportunity to participate in that profoundly meaningful revelation, as Mr. Rasky puts it, of a character "baring his soul to the audience." The actor Harold Gould did it beautifully.

Basya Hunter
Toronto

* * *

SISTERHOOD PETITIONS ISRAEL

Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood is deeply concerned about the proposed changes to the Law of Return. At a recent meeting of our board of directors, we passed the following resolution, which reads in part:

"Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood, representing over 1,000 women, calls upon the government of Israel to recognize and accept the varied forms and practices of Judaism.

"We urge recognition that any amendment to the Law of Return, which constitutes religious discrimination in Israel, is unacceptable intervention into the affairs of Diaspora Jewry.

"We further call upon the government of Israel and leaders of Jewish communities throughout the world to understand that such changes in the Law of Return and the continued discrimination against non-Orthodox congregations and rabbis inhibits those who may be considering aliya and threatens to alienate many who, by their support and advocacy, strengthen the home of our people and the security of the state."

Sheila Smolkin
Toronto

* * *

POPE TOO PIOUS ON PLO

In a statement made on Nov. 27, Pope John Paul II called for a Palestinian homeland and urged Israel to recognize the PLO's so-called acceptance of her right to exist.

It is very easy for the Pope to be opinionated. Six million Catholics were not mercilessly executed in the Second World War. Furthermore, it is not Catholics who wake up each morning, surrounded by nations that would, at a moment's notice, pool their interests to destroy them.

As the ambassador of peace to the world, the Pope is well aware of the need for a secure Jewish homeland. Catholics have a safe religious haven in the Vatican City. Moslems have Mecca, a city where no Jew or Christian is allowed to enter.

Why is it, then, that Israel is not permitted to remain wholly a Jewish nation, free from the terrorist influences of the PLO?

One has to wonder if it was Vatican City that the PLO was intent on destroying, would the Pope be so liberal in his views?

The Pope is a wise and learned man and the most religious person in the Catholic faith. However, there are some of us in the Jewish community who would prefer that the Pope not express his views about Jewish matters — matters that do not affect him or Catholics around the world whatsoever.

Michael E. Kay
Toronto

* * *

ZIONIST SPARK SEEKS SPARKLERS

Thank you for Brian Henry's excellent Nov. 3 report on our meeting addressed by Ben Kayfetz, former director of community relations for the Canadian Jewish Congress, which was headed "Kayfetz sees many ways of being Jewish today."

We are a new group of interested young adults anxious to discuss our Jewish heritage and background. We generally meet on the third Tuesday of every month.

Naturally, being newly-formed, we are still in our growth stage, and we look forward to developing into an active Zionist group dealing with vital Israeli issues, as well as areas of concern to Jews in the Diaspora.

Those interested in joining the Zionist Spark Group are invited to phone (416) 630-9444.

Marianna Grinblatt
Toronto

World-National

Mohammad's refugee claim could last 8 years

Immigration adjudicator gives terrorist reprieve

— By PHIL FINE

HAMILTON, Ont.— **Convicted Palestinian terrorist Mahmoud Mohammad Issa Mohammad, who has spent the last year fighting to remain in Canada, was given a reprieve here last week.**

An immigration department adjudicator ruled Mohammad had lied on his application form to immigrate to Canada but said he could not be deported for doing so because he had already applied for refugee status.

An appeal of the ruling as well as a determination whether Mohammad does in fact qualify for refugee status could result in the Palestinian staying in Canada another eight years, defence lawyer Barbara Jackman told the media.

Mohammad, 46, was convicted by a Greek court in 1970 of manslaughter, possession of weapons and unlawful interference with civil aviation for a 1968 attack on an El Al airliner at Athens in which an Israeli was killed.

In 1986, he applied to come to Canada but failed to note on his application form that he had a criminal conviction. A year later, he managed to slip past authorities at Pearson International Airport in Toronto even though they had been warned to watch out for him.

In his ruling, adjudicator Ed McNamara dismissed arguments by Mohammad's lawyers that their client had not actually lied because he had been pardoned for his offence by the Greek government in 1970.

Crown attorneys had argued that the pardon wiped out Mohammad's jail sentence, but not his criminal conviction.

McNamara said Mohammad also omitted to note on his application that he had been denied entry to Cyprus in 1984 and that he had been a member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

B'nai B'rith Canada spokesman Ralph Snow said last week McNamara's decision proves Canada's legal system "will not tolerate those who have committed terrorist acts and killed innocent civilians.

We are pleased that justice has been pursued fully," Snow added, "and we are assured that the adjudicator has found that Mr. Mohammad lied upon his application to Canada with regard to his terrorist past."

Jackman said last week that if there were no challenges to Canada's new refugee determination system, Mohammad's claim for refugee status could be heard as early as this summer.

But Jackman also noted that the system, set to go into effect Jan. 1., is almost certain to face court challenges on its constitutionality.

* * *

A federal committee says a mystery person, and not the Canadian Security and Intelligence Service, was responsible for allowing Mohammad into Canada.

In a report tabled in Parliament last week, the Security Intelligence Review Committee said CSIS did not err when Mohammad managaged to slip past Immigration officials at Pearson Airport in 1987.

The review committee, which oversees CSIS's activities, also absolved the spy agency of any blame for the government's failed attempt to fly Mohammad out of Canada last winter.

Neither CSIS chairman Reid Morton nor Ron Atkey, head of the review agency, would reveal the name of the mystery person, nor would either official say if the culprit had been disciplined.

IDF comes under fire

Killing of West Bankers sparks outrage

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The killing of a Jewish settler and an army reservist in the West Bank has triggered a new barrage of criticism here that the Israel Defence Force has allowed the security situation in the territories to deteriorate.

Jewish settlers in the West Bank and their political supporters in Likud are enraged over the incident, which occurred last week in Bracha, a settlement near Nablus.

Hamdan Najar, 25, a shepherd from the nearby Arab village of Burin, killed a settler, Yaacov Parag, 30, apparently with a stone that lodged in his head.

Najar seized Parag's rifle and opened fire on an approaching IDF patrol, fatally wounding reservist Arthur Herstig, 42, of Petach Tikva. He wounded two other soldiers before he was shot to death.

Initial reports of the incident did not mention the soldier's death.

Herstig and Parag were each fathers of three children and Parag's wife is pregnant with their fourth child. The double killing that created seven orphans, one unborn, infuriated the settlers.

They unleashed their wrath at a stormy meeting with Gen. Dan Shomron, the IDF chief of staff; Gen. Amram Mitzna, commander of the central sector; and Gen. Shaike Erez, head of the West Bank civil administration.

Mitzna was assailed for stating that it was still not clear whether the attack on the settler was politically motivated or the result of a quarrel over land.

Transport Minister Haim Corfu of Likud, who represented the government at Parag's funeral, called his death "cold-blooded murder" that no one should "try to wrap up as a land dispute."

Benny Katzover, head of the Samaria regional council, charged that Najar deliberately ambushed Parag and the soldiers. Other settlers said the fact the Arab was bold enough to fire on soldiers showed how far gone the situation is.

Uri Ariel, secretary of the Council of Settlements in Judea and Samaria, urged the government to take tougher measures to suppress the Palestinian uprising, including the deportation of Palestinian political leaders.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir told a settler delegation, "We should do our utmost so that our enemies will be more afraid, and our hold onto the area will be more tangible."

Shomron was given a hard time by Likud ministers Ariel Sharon and Yitzhak Modai when he briefed the inner cabinet on the killings.

The incident climaxed months of tension between the Bracha settlers and the residents of Burin, who claim the settlement was built on land expropriated from them.

Parag was the land supervisor at Bracha. It was his job to keep Arabs away.

Meanwhile, Najar's house in Burin was demolished by the IDF and the village was put under curfew.

Hitler lookalike mars Cup parade

By PAUL LUNGEN

OTTAWA — A character dressed as Hitler who took part in the recent Grey Cup parade represented "a black mark" on the festivities but was acting on his own without the consent of parade authorities, a spokesman for the mayor's office has said.

Jeff Polowin, director of communications for the mayor, said "I was stunned like everybody" when he saw the person dressed like Hitler participating in the parade, waving to the crowd and shaking hands with onlookers and children.

But, he said, the person, along with others dressed like Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and U.S. President Ronald Reagan, crashed the parade without permission. "This was not planned," he said. "They jumped in for three blocks."

Seeing a character dressed like the Nazi dictator, with swastika patch, high boots and mustache, prompted "a sort of collective sigh" among many of the spectators present and a stunned reaction, said Bill Izso, an Ottawa resident who viewed the parade.

He and Ellen Izso, his wife, were so upset by the incident they wrote to Polowin and to the Ottawa Citizen newspaper, expressing their "disgust" at what transpired.

"By having Hitler as a role model figure in a family day parade, thousands of children were exposed to an historical figure who should be vilified, not deified," they told Polowin.

The Izsos also criticized the parade marshalls, RCMP and Ottawa police for "not doing anything in this matter."

Polowin told The CJN the parade organizing committee, of which he was a member, "was upset by the thing."

The committee has sent an open letter to the Citizen explaining that the Hitler character was not a planned part of the event.

The Grey Cup parade is an annual event held in the city which hosts the Grey Cup game, the Canadian Football League's yearly championship.

Direct USSR-Israel flights forecast

JERUSALEM (JPFS) — The Soviets may soon permit direct flights for Jewish emigrants leaving on Israeli visas, which could eliminate the dropout phenomenon in Vienna, The Jerusalem Post has learned.

The Soviets are reported to be more sympathetic to Israel's requests to permit direct flights because of the aid and cooperation Israel has extended in the hijacking affair and in the Armenian disaster.

It is believed that early next year the Soviets will change the procedures for obtaining an exit visa, so that Jewish emigrants who say they wish to go to Israel will be permitted to leave only if they come here through Bucharest. The Soviets had earlier opposed such an arrangement.

* * *

Meanwhile, reports reaching Tel Aviv said that an Israeli relief team that flew to earthquake-ravaged Armenia (CJN Dec. 15) rescued at least two women buried under rubble.

Israeli ham operators have been working round the clock at their receivers and transmitters, monitoring transmissions from radio hams in Armenia requesting aid and supplies, and retransmitting them to the rest of the world.

Hadassah announced that five doctors from its medical centres in Jerusalem are part of the IDF relief unit in Armenia.

The volunteers brought emergency supplies from Hadassah Hospital on Mount Scopus and the Hadassah University Hospital in Ein Kerem.

The group is led by Dr. Yoel Donchin, head of the newly-formed trauma team at the medical centre, and includes Dr. Shmuel Hyman, head of the emergency department at Mount Scopus, and Dr. Alexander Lussus, a neurologist at the medical centre.

The Jewish Quiz

QUESTIONS:

1. Who were the two Jewish members of a committee appointed by Canadian Justice Minister Guy Favreau in 1964 "to study effective means of combating hate literature . . . "?

2. Who were the five Jewish composers whose work, commissioned by Canadian Jewish Congress, was performed over a national radio network by CBC in March 1952?

Edmond Y. Lipsitz

3. When was the Jewish Immigrant Aid Service (JIAS) established in Canada?

ANSWERS:

1. Dean Maxwell Cohen of McGill University and Saul Hayes, CJC executive vice-president.

2. Louis Applebaum, Alexander Brott, Jack Kane, Oscar Morawetz and John Weinzweig.

3. In 1919 during the 1st Canadian Jewish Congress meeting.

* * *

These questions and answers came from the book *6400 Questions About Judaism and the Jewish People* by Edmond Y. Lipsitz, published by JESL Educational Products.

Hartt named chief of staff

OTTAWA — Montreal lawyer Stanley Hartt has agreed to a request from Prime Minister Brian Mulroney to become his chief of staff.

The 51-year-old Hartt, who was deputy finance minister for three years until last April, will officially assume the post on Jan. 31. He succeeds career diplomat Derek Burney who is to become the new ambassador to the U.S.

Hartt's ability to analyze and create strategy for the administrative and political benefit of the government in the finance department won him praise within the bureaucracy and the Prime Minister's circle, The Globe and Mail reported.

His appointment to the powerful post signals Mulroney's determination to lay a firm hand on the machinery of government and to avoid surprises or foul-ups in the next four years, the Globe said.

Hartt was recruited by Mulroney from the Montreal law firm of Stikeman, Elliot in 1985 to replace Mickey Cohen as deputy finance minister.

The Globe said that at that time Hartt had been considered "something of a Liberal" when he was recommended to Mulroney after serving as chairman of a private-sector group which organized the National Economic Conference earlier that year.

Stanley Hartt

Hartt has served on the board of directors of the Jewish National Fund and has also been involved with the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews. He is a member of Montreal's Congregation Shaar Hashomayim.

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Mississippi Burning film probes racism in America

By
SHELDON KIRSHNER

TORONTO —

Mississippi Burning, the new Alan Parker film, burns with anti-racist indignation.

Now playing at Cineplex Odeon theatres, *Mississippi Burning* is based on a 1964 incident that aroused the conscience of America.

On a mid-summer night, deep in the heart of Mississippi, three civil rights workers, two Jews and a local Black, were murdered in cold blood by a gang of thugs. Michael Schwerner and Andrew Goodman had been sent to that hardrock bastion of segregation to help Blacks win the right to vote. White resistance was fierce and adamant, and Schwerner, Goodman and Chaney became martyrs of a great cause.

The FBI, dispatched to Mississippi to solve the riddle of their disappearance, discovered that they had been killed by members of the Ku Klux Klan. Eventually, their decomposing bodies were dug up, and the murderers were brought to justice.

Parker (*Angel Heart, Birdy, Midnight Express*) uses these bald but compelling facts to create a heartfelt lament about racism in modern America.

Although *Mississippi Burning* clearly focuses on the violence done to Southern Blacks in the name of white, Christian civilization, it also concerns itself with that most invidious form of prejudice — anti-semitism. In the opening frame, the civil rights workers' car is stopped on an isolated stretch of road. Goodman and Schwerner are verbally abused as "Jew boys" and "nigger lovers" by their redneck tormentors. Much later, a Klan leader suspected of involvement in the crime recites a well-rehearsed speech about preserving Christian Anglo-Saxon culture and fighting the so-called baneful influence of Jews in banking and the media.

Parker has made a film with an unambiguous message. Ward (Willem Dafoe), the earnest, straitlaced FBI agent in charge of the investigation, not only singles out Mississippians who've trampled on the constitutional rights of Blacks. "Anyone's guilty who watches this happen... Every governor and senator who allows the hate to fester to gather a few votes. Every college kid who ever laughed at a racist joke. Everyone who chewed their tongue when they should have spoken up."

Mrs. Pell (Frances McDormand), the long-suffering wife of the deputy sheriff who participates in the killing, confesses that she, too, is a victim.

"At seven years of age, if you're told it enough times, you believe it," she tells Anderson (Gene Hackman), Ward's difficult assistant. "You believe the hatred. You live it. You breathe it. You marry it."

Mississippi Burning comes down hard on the ante bellum racism that was, and perhaps still is, so much a part of the Southern social and political landscape. The film, which is nothing if not atmospheric, achieves a strong sense of time and place by zeroing in on pinched, self-satisfied white faces who condone brutal segregation and harp upon the discredited theme of "happy negras" riled up by Northern troublemakers.

Parker and his screenwriter, Chris Gerolmo, play with the facts, taking artistic liberties to heighten the effect.

To illustrate the phenomenon of the segregated restaurant, Ward, to everyone's amazement, takes a seat in the Black section. In real life, the case was broken with a simple payoff. In *Mississippi Burning*, a Black FBI agent kidnaps a recalcitrant mayor (R. Lee Ermey) and wrings an incriminating confession by threatening to castrate him with a razor blade.

Sometimes, Parker tries a little too hard — when Ward, much like a puritanical missionary, leads his agents, improperly attired in tight, dark suits, into a swamp; when Anderson, no stickler for the finer points of law, squeezes the testicles of a suspect; when Anderson abuses the deputy sheriff (Brad Dourif) as he lies helplessly in a swiveling barber's chair.

The performances are all authentic, from Hackman's roistering police methods and Dafoe's button-down propriety to Ermey's lying hypocrisy and McDormand's repressed anguish.

It's a film that cries out for attention, and wholeheartedly deserves it.

Gene Hackman and Willem Dafoe star in Mississippi Burning.

Mosque arson strains Jewish-Arab relations

By
GIL SEDAN

JERUSALEM (JTA) —

Arson against a mosque in the Bedouin village of Itbin, near Haifa, has seriously strained relations between Israeli Jews and their 700,000 fellow Arab citizens.

Israeli Arabs of all political persuasions view the arson, believed to be the work of Jewish extremists, as part of a larger campaign by the Jewish authorities to harass and intimidate the Israeli Arab minority.

The depth of the bitterness was evident when Haifa Mayor Arye Gurel and Meir Cohen-Avidov, a former Likud Knesset member, came to a meeting of Arab leaders to condemn the arson and offer sympathy.

They got a cold reception.

They then walked out of the meeting in anger when the leader of Israel's Moslem community, Sheik Abdallah Nimer, commented that the burning of the mosque was no more an outrage than the demolition of Arab homes by the Israeli authorities because they were built without licences.

He was referring to the recent bulldozing of homes in the Israeli Arab town of Taiba near Kfar Sava.

Nimer added that any act against the Arab population in the territories was an act against the Arab community in Israel.

That open identification with the Palestinian uprising incensed Cohen-Avidov. "I came here to identify as a religious person with those who protested the desecration of a holy place," he said.

"It is unfortunate that the stage has been used for wild incitement against the state."

Said Mayor Gurel, "I have no dialogue or debate with Khomeinists."

He was likening the Israeli Arabs to the Islamic fundamentalists who follow the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini of Iran.

But Israeli Arabs have what they consider serious grievances. They see the arson as evidence of the further radicalization of Israeli Jews.

According to Ahmad Abu-Assbe, mayor of the Israeli Arab village of Jatt, near Hadera, the arson was "the first act toward implementing the transfer policy by making our lives unbearable."

"Transfer" is a euphemism for expulsion, which, some right-wing Israelis see as the only solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Abu-Assbe suggested the establishment of an Arab civil guard to protect Israeli Arab communities from attacks by Jewish extremists, just as Jewish settlers in the territories arm themselves against Arab attacks.

The newly built mosque in Itbin was not badly damaged by the fire. But prayer rugs and Korans valued in the tens of thousands of shekels were destroyed.

The religious affairs ministry promptly promised to pay for the damage. But senior Arab mayors, Arab Knesset members and others decided "not to wait for the government to fulfil its promises."

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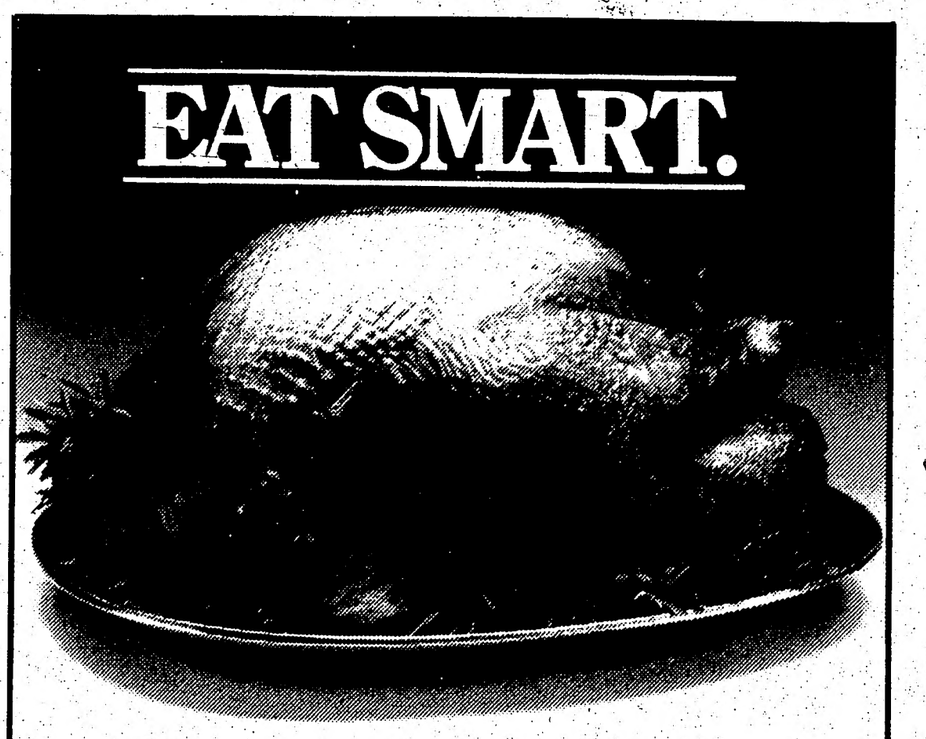

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World-National

DIARY ...of a People

By DAVID BIRKAN

In the early morning of Dec. 25, 1969, Israeli sailors spirited five gunboats out of Cherbourg harbor in France. They were taking delivery of embargoed goods long since ordered and paid for.

Israel's decisive Six Day War victory in 1967 demonstrated the potential of Mirage fighters and other French arms. It also led to increasing resentment against her by French president Charles de Gaulle, who apparently had demanded that, whatever provocation and menace they faced, the Israelis wait for an Arab first strike before retaliating. Any favor France found among the Arab states in granting Algeria independence and in other decolonizing moves was, according to de Gaulle, undercut by Israel. He put an unprecedented chill on French-Israeli diplomatic relations, and embargoed a shipment of paid-for 50 new Mirages.

Israel's use of French helicopters in its anti-terrorist retaliatory raid on Beirut airport on Dec. 28, 1968 prompted the gunboats' embargo. Still under construction, they were moved to the inner side of the harbor. Demonstrated was the French government's resolve in the matter — despite the French people's support of Israel — as well as closer surveillance of the craft. Protracted Israeli political and diplomatic soundings only confirmed Paris's decision. The government made it clear it would not "turn a blind eye to any attempt by the Israelis to smuggle the ships out of Cherboug," writes Richard Deacon in *The Israeli Secret Service*. Israeli crew members continued to stay on or visit the boats regularly.

Young commander

Naval purchases from France were conducted by Mordechai Limon. His post-World War II exploits in running the British warship blockade of Palestine to bring in refugees and survivors from Europe made him an admiral in Israel's fledgling navy in 1948. In 1950 — at the age of 26 — he was made naval commander-in-chief, the post he held until his official retirement from the services in 1954. In 1962, Limon was dispatched to Paris to organize military purchases for Israel.

There was no alternative for Israel, which needed the boats as the nucleus for a rapid patrol force to guard her coast from the increasing threat of terrorist incursion. The five boats would have to be gotten out without Paris's approval. Cherbourg, the base for France's nuclear submarines, was one of Europe's most heavily guarded harbors, patrolled by police, guard dogs, and soldiers. Limon relied on the blockade-running experience of his earlier years to formulate the plan. Aiding him was Israeli rear admiral Benjamin Telem, deputy chief of naval staff. Accompanying his wife to Lyons for a cataract operation in November 1969, Telem spent two days in Cherbourg reconnoitering. Limon set the Israeli attempt for Christmas eve, when security was expected to be lowest.

The distance from Cherbourg to Haifa was long. A dash to nearby England was ruled out after initial consideration: pro-Arab sympathies in Whitehall was gauged as too strong. The possibility of ostensibly selling the boats to a third or front company which would on possession transfer them to Israel was also suggested. A sense of urgency, Israeli reluctance to surrender formal title to the boats — a necessary precondition — and the diplomatic fallout for any third country involved at a time when Israel was trying to keep all its political chips for use against terrorism, ruled out this last minute suggestion as well.

Limon went to Cherbourg to oversee last minute details. He found the day's gale force winds subsiding by nightfall, to the relief of his crew who had been ordered to proceed regardless of the weather. Sometime after midnight, the five gunboats slipped their moorings. To avoid observation by naval gun batteries along the main outlet from the port, the boats were steered out through a subsidiary channel. Dummy runs several days earlier indicated the least dangerous passage through the shallow, narrow, rock-infested path that was marked forbidden on naval charts. Limon drove back to Paris.

The boats arrived to a heady welcome in Haifa. French president Georges Pompidou declared: "We have been made to look absolute fools." Israel proceeded with her anti-terrorist sea force, which has proven itself time and time again.

Youth from centres twinned with Or Yehuda

UIA trip to bolster Jewish identity

By BELINDA SILBERMAN

TORONTO —

A stronger sense of Jewish identity is bound to result for youth joining an Israel trip being organized this summer by the United Israel Appeal of Canada, says a key organizer.

The youth — to be chosen primarily from smaller Ontario and Atlantic Region communities "twinned" with UIA of Canada's Project Renewal neighborhood of Or Yehuda — will stay with Israeli families, help with community rehabilitation projects and tour the country, according to Lou Sklar, chairman of the Project Renewal committee representing the Ontario and Atlantic Regions.

"In the past the impact has been dramatic," Sklar said.

"So far the kids have come back with a totally new and elevated sense of their Jewish identity and their Zionist commitment."

Many have resolved to do their university degrees in Israel, while others have vowed to make aliya at the first opportunity, said Sklar, who is also national Project Renewal committee chairman.

"We even had kids who went on the mission with anti-Zionist sentiments, but we felt they had potential and their parents tell us they have been completely turned around by the experience."

As many as 15 youths aged 16 to 18 are expected to participate in the 3-week trip to run from Aug. 10-31.

Partipants will be chosen from among dozens of smaller Ontario and Atlantic Jewish communities, including Hamilton, Windsor, London and Kitchener which are twinned with Or Yehuda, a town near Tel Aviv.

Sklar says the two regions have been twinned with Or Yehuda since about 1980. Other Canadian communities are twinned with other Project Renewal neighborhoods in Israel.

The original goal of the twinnings was to help UIA contributors relate better to a target population, Sklar says.

The program has since developed a more "people-to-people" orientation.

"At first we thought we would work together and be friends. But now the twinning program is becoming an important ingredient in the lives of the people in the distressed neighborhoods and of those families in our communities that are becoming involved."

The youth program, started in August, 1986, has grown out of that people-to-people orientation, he says.

In August, 1987, 16 Canadian youth were sent to Israel for three weeks. During their stay with mainly Sephardic families in Or Yehuda, participants helped local youth with work projects such as painting, gardening and landscaping.

They also toured Israel with the same local youth for 1½ weeks, receiving lectures from experts explaining the sites they visited.

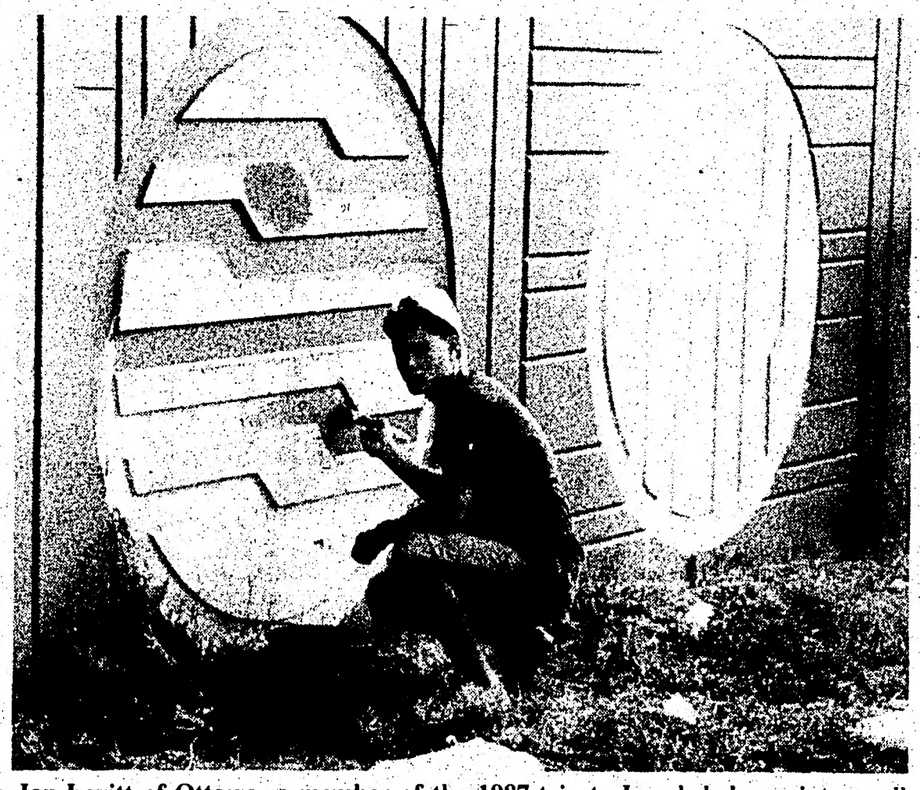
The 1989 trip, which will include transportation, accommodation, food, entertainment and lectures, will cost each participant $975. UIA will subsidize the rest.

UIA of Canada also plans to bring four Or Yehuda youths to visit smaller Jewish communities in the Ontario Region for three weeks this summer, Sklar says.

Or Yehuda youths were also brought over last summer and in 1987, Sklar says.

"These missions proved to be important learning experiences for both the young Israeli visitors and the communities that hosted them," he says.

For more information on the trip to Israel, call Eli Rubenstein at (416) 636-7655 or write to UIA of Canada, Youth to Youth Exchange Program, 4600 Bathurst St., Ste. 315, Willowdale, Ont. M2R 3V3.



Ian Levitt of Ottawa, a member of the 1987 trip to Israel, helps paint a wall in Or Yehuda.

Soviet cutback may affect Arabs

TEL AVIV (JTA) —

The 10% cutback in Soviet conventional weapons promised by President Mikhail Gorbachev in his recent address to the UN could foreshadow a decline of Soviet support to extremist Arab elements, according to a former official of the Reagan administration.

Kenneth Adelman, former director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, made his remarks at the 4th annual Jeane Kirkpatrick Forum at Tel Aviv University last week.

Adelman said that if Soviet policies continue on the path of arms reduction, a time could come when the USSR will play a cooperative role in the Middle East.

He warned, however, that the easing of U.S.-Soviet tensions would decrease American reliance on Israel as a Middle East factor that "stands up to the Russians."

Canadian-Israeli "difficulties" cited

By DAVID LAZARUS

JERUSALEM —

Canada and Israel have "real difficulties" in their bilateral relationship that will need a continuing process of "ironing out," says the director of the Israeli foreign ministry's North American desk.

Michael Shilo said that "by and large the relations with Canada are excellent on paper but not on tangibles.

"We have very real difficulties both with the bureaucracy and with Mr. (Joe) Clark, which we have tried before and will continue to try ironing out."

At a briefing session for Jewish Canadian participants of the recent Operation Solidarity mission to promote Israeli tourism, Shilo worried that "I don't think Mr. Clark will change his approach.

"I don't have to tell you about your experiences in 1988. I think the Jewish community performed just so well during those difficult days."

Shilo said although events of this type are "unpleasant," dialogue continues between Canada and Israel, "and we hope for the betterment of the relationship."

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When violence ends

Peres favors territories vote

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Time and again, Peres reiterated that the key to peace with the Arabs must lie in an absolute cessation of terror. Arafat's words, Peres pointed out, were of far less importance than the shots the PLO fired.

"I assure you that if the terror were to stop, we would see peace break out," he said.

Saying that he favored talks with Palestinians elected for that purpose, Peres also said that when the violence in the territories ended he would propose holding free elections.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin condemned the American move in strong terms, saying that the U.S. had abandoned the principle of fighting terrorism and had "legitimized" the intifada, which is in itself, he said, tantamount to terrorism.

Rabin, calling the U.S. decision "a grave mistake," told the U.S.: "You have abandoned an important principle of U.S. policy — opposing terrorism and waging war against it.

"The second thing we should say is that you have in fact legitimized the uprising. What is the uprising? A firebomb on a civilian bus — isn't that terrorism?"

Israel must not relinquish one single square inch of territory without a political solution, be it partial or comprehensive, Rabin said Sunday at the weekly cabinet session.

"There can be no surrender to violence," he said.

Rabin said that an intensified settlement drive in the territories was not the way to counter the latest American move. "Settlements are an obstacle to peace," he said.

He said he was opposed to all unilateral moves including unilateral autonomy. "Every step must be the outcome of negotiation."

Ezer Weizman, a Laborite minister without portfolio, called the American move "a new beginning (that) could lead to a happy ending."

The leftist Mapam and Citizens Rights Movement, like Labor doves, hailed the PLO's "new moderation."

On the right, there was anger and resentment toward the United States.

A group of Jewish settlers from the West Bank pitched tents outside Shamir's residence. They declared a hunger strike to protest what they called the trend toward territorial concessions.

Rabbi Eliezer Schach, spiritual mentor of Degel HaTorah, and a strong influence in Shas, both ultra-Orthodox parties needed by Shamir, was reported to have spoken in favor of the American decision to talk to the PLO. His grounds were said to be that the move would ultimately "save lives."

Meanwhile, Palestinians in the territories welcomed the American decision to start a dialogue with the PLO, hailing it as a major achievement of the uprising, and expressing hope that it would lead to talks with Israel. "The gulf all these years between us and the Americans is closed," said Gaza lawyer Fayez Abu Rahme, a prominent PLO supporter. "This is a new era of a balanced role for American diplomacy."

"The uprising has succeeded beyond our expectations by changing the political climate," said Al Fajr editor Hanna Siniora. He said the PLO had responded to pressure from Palestinians in the territories to translate the uprising into political initiatives, and recognize Israel.

CIC welcomes statement

[Cont'd. from page 1]

that of director-general. Ministers, deputy ministers and ambassadors are prohibited from having official contact with the PLO.

Commenting on Clark's statement, the CIC, which represents Canadian Jewish Congress, B'nai B'rith Canada and the Canadian Zionist Federation in matters pertaining to Israeli-Canadian relations, said:

"We feel (Clark's statement) was appropriately cautious.

"Clearly something important has happened but we're a long way from knowing what the outcome will be and Mr. Clark's statement reflected a cautious assessment of the situation."

Earlier, prior to Shultz's announcement, Clark told reporters that "we have to find ways to encourage (a peace process) to continue to move forward.

"What we have to do is to consider how Canada with our traditions and our responsibilities might contribute in a constructive way to the process that we hope will end in peace, agreed to by the parties in the Middle East."

Meanwhile, the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Centre, in a news release, stated the United States had embarked on a road "fraught with danger.

"The administration "may be sending the wrong message to the world: that terrorism does pay," the release stated.

The Centre, calling the Shultz decision "high risk," noted the U.S. announcement "comes despite recent public statements by numerous key senior Palestine National Council (the PLO's "parliament") officials, including Abu Abbas, that they have not, do not, and will not recognize the right of the State of Israel to exist."

The Centre called on Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, representing the Likud and Labor respectively, to "set aside partisan politics and to jointly explain to the world why the overwhelming majority of Israel's population is inexorably opposed to a PLO state as a neighbor."

* * *

NEW YORK (JTA) —

With few exceptions, major American Jewish groups said they understood U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's decision to allow "substantive talks" between representatives of the United States and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith said the United States is "living up to its commitment." Both the American Jewish Congress and the American Jewish Committee said Shultz acted "correctly." The Union of American Hebrew Congregations called the decision a "victory" for Shultz.

But while agreeing that the PLO seemed to have accepted the U.S. government's conditions for dialogue, nearly all the groups released statements demanding that Arafat be made to match his "magic words" with deeds.

The warmest words of praise for Shultz came from Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of Reform Judaism's UAHC.

Schindler said in a statement that the American decision "represents a victory for Secretary Shultz and his insistence that the PLO meet the conditions first laid down by Secretary (Henry) Kissinger in 1975.

"But a U.S. dialogue with the PLO is far from a peace negotiation," added Schindler. "Rather, it offers an opportunity for the United States to apply pressure on the PLO to abandon its surrealistic demand that Israel abandon Jerusalem and return all of the territories."

Even the often hard-line Zionist Organization of America refrained from directly criticizing Shultz, although it called his decision "troublesome" and a "sobering reality."

"Having made its decision, the United States should proceed with optimism, but with equal caution," said the unsigned ZOA statement.

Labor peace activists want party in opposition

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Labor will agree to no more than six in four years.

Rabin, who has been a strong advocate of a Labor partnership with Likud, said Sunday that such an arrangement is impossible under Likud terms.

Rabin was quoted as telling a meeting of Labor ministers it would be "madness" to cut the defence budget to provide funds for religious institutions.

In a 4-hour cabinet meeting on Sunday, Shamir called on Labor to put aside the question of settlements, which it considers an obstacle to peace, and to help face challenges dominated by the Palestinian uprising in the territories.

The Premier said Likud and Labor should unite in their opposition to an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, political sources said.

A group of Labor peace activists urged Labor to go into opposition and talk to the PLO. "Let Shamir and his cronies go by themselves because they are heading on a terrible collision course with reality," parlimentarian Arye Eliav said.

Peres said in a CBS television interview that he was prepared to hold peace talks with any Palestinian who truly renounced terror, but he stopped short of backing the U.S. decision to talk to the PLO.

By law, Shamir has until Dec. 26 to form a government. He could receive more time, but seven weeks after his Likud edged the centre-left Labor in elections the Prime Minister is under pressure to conclude the coalition.

If he reports failure, the President will ask the leader of another party to attempt the task. Presumably, it would be Peres.

It was Herzog's unprecedented call for a Likud-Labor coalition last month that led to the renewal of negotiations between the two major parties.

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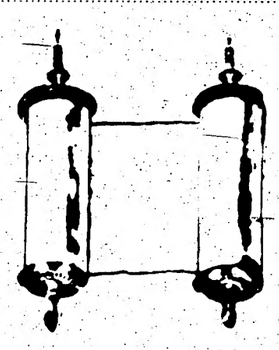
Organizations and People



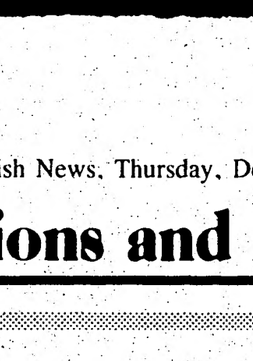
sparks from the torah

By
RABBI MEIR URI GOTTESMAN

Parshat Vayechee

When a Jew lives a decent, pious life, then death has no fear. If you live like a Jew, you can die like a Jew.

Rabbi Yaakov Berlin lived 60 years in Mir, Lithuania, and then decided to make aliyah to Eretz Yisrael. He lived out his last 17 years in Jerusalem.



Rabbi Gottesman

When he fell into his final illness, the elders of Jerusalem visited him, saw his critical state, and were deeply saddened. Rabbi Yaakov consoled them: "Why do you cry for me? After all, I am a full 77 years old! Also, I was worthy to have even more than my namesake, Father Jacob. The Torah says that Jacob lived in the land of Egypt his final 17 years — while I was worthy to live in Jerusalem, not Egypt! When Jacob appeared before Pharaoh, he bemoaned his fate: 'Mi'at v'raeem . . . short and bitter!', while my days, thank God, were sweet and full of Torah!"

He passed away peacefully soon after. (Ituray Torah)

* * *

We are all in the hands of the Almighty, and must have confidence.

Father Jacob was about to pass away, when he called his sons together to bless them — and to reveal to them, the ultimate secret, the *kaytz*, the time when the Jewish people would finally be redeemed, not by the power of the United Nations, not by the good-will of "friends," but true Redemption, true peace.

Suddenly, Jacob lost the vision, it was sealed up from him. That is why the parsha is a *setumah*, is a closed, mysterious section. There are no spaces between it and the preceeding section, just the slightest hint of a break.

Why? Why the silence, the closed story?

Redemption hidden

Comments Rashi: "Beekaish ligalotet hakaytz vi'nistam meemenu . . . He wanted to reveal the end, the redemption, and it was hidden from him." (Rashi, Breshit 47:28)

Why was it hidden? For two reasons: Taught Reb Bunim of Parshischa, and so added the Sefat Emet — the purpose of the exile, the suffering, was to cleanse and purify and prove the Jewish people. But when a person — or a nation — knows that the time of trial will end on such a day, it is not so terrible. It will end! So it was left hidden. We must wait, we must endure.

Adds Reb Naftali of Rupschitz: Father Jacob saw far, far into the future of the Jewish people. He saw the Hitlers and the pogroms and the Arafats and the nations joined up against us. Despair and depression settled upon him, and when a person is bathed in sadness, the *Shechinah* (God's radiance) departs from him.

We are now in the night of the exile. We hoped a few years ago that Lo! The danger, the suffering, the terrible threat had finally passed from our midst. Ah nechtiger tug! We must ride the wagon of Jewish destiny just as our forefathers and mothers rode it before — *Heenay am livadad yishkon*, a nation that dwells alone. So it was, so it will be — until the true Redemption.

What can we do about it? Can we change the mind of Iraq? Can we reason and argue with Sudan or Pakistan? Can we change the hearts of those who surround us to eat us up? Not likely!

But, Ribono shel Olam! In this moment of danger can we eat each other alive? How can Jews look at each other cross-eyed? Must we be the world's entertainment, watching as Jews fight with each other for another piece of pie? Torah, our Jewish way, is something so beautiful, so pure and full of kindness. Spreading Yiddishkeit must be something inspired from love — love, respect, admiration, truth — not force.

We cannot change the world. Someday the world will wake up on its own, like Joseph's brothers. **Ourselves** we must change, into one people, one nation, one Torah, one caring.

Kol Yisrael areivim zeh bazeh — we are all in one, very fragile, boat. Let us hold on to each other. Shabbat Shalom.

Priorities said to be misplaced

By
BELINDA SILBERMAN

KINGSTON, Ont. — It's time to turn away the spotlight from the Who is a Jew controversy and refocus it back on the Palestinian issue, says a United Israel Appeal of Canada official.

Recent protests by North American Jews have made Israelis see how important the Jewish conversion issue is to those in the Diaspora, said Reuven Rosenfelder, national communications director.

"It's the first time that Jews from overseas have taken such a strong stand and have impacted on Israeli public opinion as well as politics to such a degree," Rosenfelder told a recent campaign dinner here of the local UIA of Canada Women's Division.

"In other words, they have prioritized it on the Israeli agenda," he said.

But the issue has "absorbed our practical and emotional energies in the past few weeks," he said.

"It's time to bring our focus back to matters which are of utmost importance to Israel's future. Arafat and the PLO are gaining in world public opinion and among Western governments."

As a result, Jewish unity, determination and activism is more crucial than ever, Rosenfelder said.

About 40 people from Kingston's close-knit Jewish community of about 200 families attended the 13th annual campaign event held at the Centre St. home of Myrna Marcus and her husband, Percy.

Rosenfelder, a guest speaker, said North American Jews are justly concerned about the Who is a Jew amendment

Betty Siegel

Reuven Rosenfelder

to Israel's Law of Return because it has "far reaching implications for them personally.

"Israelis, on the other hand, are intensely concerned with political and security questions — specifically, the future of the territories," he said.

The issue of conversions is controversial because the Law of Return — permitting Jews to immigrate to Israel and receive immediate citizenship — defines a Jew as anyone who's born to a Jewish mother or who has undergone a Jewish conversion.

There's no definition in the law as to what constitutes a conversion, and Israel's religious parties want to make valid only conversions performed by Orthodox rabbis.

Other speakers at the 4-hour UIA campaign event included Women's Division co-chairmen Betty Siegel and Linda Malinoff, and Kingston resident Judy Berman, who recently returned from a trip with her husband, Mort, to Israel's Moshav Idan.

Kingston's Jewish community began raising funds last year over and above regular UIA of Canada contributions to build a $300,000 pre-kindergarten day care centre project in Moshav Idan, a small agricultural settlement.

Construction, which began in October, is expected to be completed by next summer.

Idan is part of Israel's settlement effort in the Arava, a large arid region in the southern part of the country between the Dead Sea and Eilat.

"The people of Idan are the pioneers of the 1980s," Berman told the meeting.

"They have chosen to live in this difficult area, and through their determination and the application of modern irrigation and farming techniques, they have turned it around."

The new day care centre will enable Idan's mothers to work, while their young children receive care.

During the campaign event, Kingston residents contributed to UIA's regular campaign, resulting in a total slighfly higher than last year.

"We felt it was quite a successful campaign," Malinoff said in an interview.

"People were very enthusiastic, and also very excited about our project in Idan."

Siegel said she was pleased so many contributions were received despite the Who is a Jew controversy.

"Some people refused to give because of the situation, and there were others who gave more," she said. "So it all balanced out."

Siegel added if it hadn't been for the controversy, more would likely have been donated.

Other guests at the meeting included Malinoff's husband, Lorne, and Berman's husband, Mort, who are campaign co-chairmen of the local Men's Division.

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$40 million (U.S.) sold so far, pledges still coming in

Sales of Bonds in Toronto up 25% over 1987

By
BELINDA SILBERMAN

TORONTO —
A record $40 million (U.S.) in Israel Bonds and notes have been sold in Toronto so far this year and pledges are still being received, says the president of Canada-Israel Securities Ltd.

The amount represents a 25% increase from 1987 sales when Toronto residents purchased about $30 million (U.S.) in Bonds and notes, Mel Dobrin told a recent national board of directors meeting.

Larry Waller, Ontario Region executive director, called the increase "fabulous."

"I just hope we can match it or do even better next year," he said in an interview.

The increase is believed to be the result of a campaign, begun in 1986, to make people more aware of the need for Israel Bonds, Waller said.

Bonds' many volunteers have also helped to increase the organization's activities, resulting in more sales, he said.

So far, thousands of Toronto residents have purchased Israel Bonds and notes ranging in price from $250 (U.S.) to $1 million, Waller said.

Many of the sales took place during the High Holiday campaign held on Yom Kippur when 1,000 new families purchased Bonds, resulting in a 20% increase in sales from the same period in 1987.

More was sold during Bonds dinners, cocktail receptions and parlor meetings.

Key fall events included a city-wide dinner held in honor of North York Mayor Mel Lastman and his wife, Marilyn. The black tie affair resulted in the largest amount of Israel Bonds and notes ever sold at a North American community event, Waller said.

Many synagogue dinners were also held to sell Bonds. The events honored Toronto businessmen such as Ed Mirvish and his wife, Anne; Julius Goodbaum and his wife, Esther; Joseph Kerzner; Max Glicksman and his wife, Guta; and Moris Glick and his wife, Rose.

Seen at the recent Canada-Israel Securities meeting are (from left) Ontario chairman Allan Silber, board members Kurt Rothchild, Alex Grossman, president Mel Dobrin and board member Phillip Reichmann. [Richard Saunders photo]

Waller said the Palestinian uprising in the territories didn't affect the amount of Bonds and notes sold. That's because the Bonds organization is a non-political entity which supports the State of Israel and not necessarily its government, he said.

Total sales in Canada are also expected to show about a 25% increase this year, Waller said. Last year about $65 million (U.S.) in Bonds and notes were sold.

Canadian sales make up about 10% of the North American total.

Sales in the U.S. are expected to increase this year by about 10%.

"This proves that the State of Israel Bonds organization is the most viable group for investment dollars in the Diaspora," Waller said of the increases.

About 25 people attended the recent quarterly board of directors meeting held in an executive boardroom at Olympia and York in First Canadian Place's newest tower. Albert and Phillip Reichmann, executives of the real estate development corporation, sit on the Canada-Israel Securities board.

During the meeting, financial executive Allan Silber was officially appointed Bonds' new Ontario chairman.

Among those to attend the meeting were Canada-Israel Securities officials including Waller; Julius Briskin, executive vice-president and general counsel; and Bernard Karr, a controller.

'Peg council okays new school/centre

By
MYRON LOVE

WINNIPEG —
Considering the growing number of younger Jewish families moving from north to south Winnipeg, the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council recently approved in principle construction of a new Jewish high school and community centre in either south Winnipeg or the downtown area to replace the aging Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate building in north Winnipeg.

No schedule for construction has yet been set for the new complex that was one of the major proposals outlined in the Touche Ross Long Range Planning Report on the community's future needs released in May.

Officials of the YM-YWHA-Jewish Community Centre on Hargarve St. downtown contacted by The CJN, said no decision has been made on how the decision would affect the Centre.

Thus far, there have been some informal discussions with architects and sites in south and central Winnipeg have been scouted.

The report recommended the centre attached to the new school should concentrate on offering arts performances, programs for seniors and teenagers, adult education, space for group meetings and a library.

Putting cultural activities ahead of recreational needs, the report did recommend that a gym and running track should be installed as well but a pool and courts should only be considered if there is enough money left over and there is enough demand.

The next step is the creation of an implementation committee.

The WJCC also agreed to restructure itself as suggested in the Touche Ross report. The board will create four new subcommittees in its planning department dealing with education, recreation and culture, social services and aging (replacing the present Commission on Aging).

Chairmen for the subcommittees are expected to be announced by the end of the month.

Correction

The first Hadassah-WIZO Aviv Conference held two years ago in Toronto resulted in about 90% of those women attending becoming actively involved in leadership positions on the local and national level. Our story in the Dec. 15 issue said about 50% became actively involved.

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Organizations and People

UJA exceeds its 1988 campaign by $6 million

By
ESTHER MEHR

TORONTO —

More than 350 men and women representing the United Jewish Appeal campaign leadership and canvassers from all divisions, celebrated the wind-up of the 1989 campaign.

Although the campaign is not yet completed, there was much cause for celebration, UJA leaders reported. The previous campaign which set a record for the amount raised up to that point, has been exceeded this year by $6 million, the audience was told.

The reception, held at Beth Tzedec Synagogue, was a festive occasion from the moment of entry into the main dining hall which was decorated from one end to the other with colored balloons and picture blowups that covered two walls. That—plus food, drink and lively music all contributed to a "freilich" atmosphere.

By the time co-chairman Julia Koschitzky and Don Rafelman stepped up to the podium to present their closing addresses, the room was filled with an enthusiastic sense of accomplishment.

As the chairmen noted, the results achieved so far in the 1989 campaign "are singularly remarkable for several reasons."

This, they noted, has been a difficult year for the State of Israel and Jews in the Diaspora. From the daily barrage of media coverage of the uprisings in the Gaza and on the West Bank, to the aftermath of the election and Who is a Jew issue, "it's been one crisis following another."

Yet despite these controversies which have yet to be resolved, Toronto's Jewish community "showed its maturity and understanding of the need to support the vast network of vital services funded through UJA dollars," the chairmen said.

With so many who contributed so much to the campaign, the chairmen said, it was difficult to thank each one individually. They did however, single out five "whose responsibility crossed divisional lines and created and built strong networks for campaigns to come."

Cited were Aaron Brotman, Sam Schwartz, Judy Scheininger, Glennie Lindenberg and David Engel.

Toronto Jewish Congress president Herb Rosenfeld announced the co-chairmen of the 1990 campaign — Marty Goldberg and Joel Greisman. Heading Women's campaign will be Carol Kassel.

It's all for one and one for all as outgoing and incoming UJA campaign chairmen pose for a photo. Julie Koschitzky and Don Rafelman (second from right) welcome (from left) Joel Greisman and Marty Goldberg.

Law of Return change opposed

OTTAWA —

Amending the Law of Return would promote discord and create a rift between Israel and the Diaspora, says the Board of Trustees of the Ottawa Jewish Community Council.

During a recent meeting at which the Law of Return was on the agenda, the board held a lengthy discussion on the issue and passed a resolution stating that it reaffirms: "our unwavering and unconditional commitment to the State of Israel; that we are disturbed by the most recent events that threaten to promote discord among Jewish Communities outside Israel and create a serious rupture between Israel and the Diaspora Jewry; and that cognizant as we are of the critical nature of the issues involved, we urge the government of Israel that there be no amendment to the Law of Return."

* * *

"Political anti-semitism can lead to violence even in Western civilization," Stephen Victor, Ottawa Jewish Community Council president, told 1,500 people attending a meeting on Parliament Hill marking the 50th anniversary of Kristallnacht.

"We must be ever vigilant against anti-semitism, whether state inspired or spontaneous," he said.

Fifty children took part in an outdoor candlelighting ceremony. Holocaust survivor Horace Philipp, a witness to Kristallnacht, carried a Torah. Inge Hoffman, who was a child during the 1938 pogrom, carried a selection of books by Jewish authors.

A child of survivors, Judge Rosalie Abella, gave the keynote address. "As survivors we have a fierce commitment never to let indifference overcome justice or integrity in the pages our generation donates to history. There must be no more victims," Judge Abella said.

A moving message from Willie Brandt, former chancellor of West Germany was delivered by Wolfgang Behrends, that country's ambassador to Canada. Behrends also read a message from Helmut Kohl, the current West German chancellor.

"The Holocaust itself was perpetrated in secret in the remoteness of the death camps," Kohl wrote. "But the crime committed on Nov. 9 happened in public for all to see, and was committed against friends and neighbors.

"At that time most Germans chose to remain silent either because they were paralyzed by fear or because they were indifferent. This silence makes us feel deeply ashamed right up to the present day," Kohl said.

Israel Gur-Arieh, Israel's ambassador to Canada, spoke movingly about the events which took place 50 years ago in the "civilized" countries of Germany and Austria.

The Psalm was delivered by Cantor Avraham Carmel, the El Maaleh Rachamin rendered by Cantor David Aptowitzer and the kaddish was sung by Cantor Moshe Kraus.

OOPS !

In last week's CJN story on Israel Bonds' "Todah" reception, executive committee member Michael Bregman was incorrectly identified.

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Involved in many Jewish organizations

Mandell honored with JNF's Bloomfield Medal

TORONTO —

Frances Mandell, whose family has long been associated with benevolent activities within this city's Jewish community, is the recipient of the 1988 Bernard M. Bloomfield Medal.

The Bloomfield Medal, awarded annually since 1975, is "an expression of admiration and thanks for true leadership and total commitment in the cause of the Jewish National Fund," the organization said.

The medal was struck in recognition of Bloomfield's Contribution to JNF Canada) while president, from 1970-1975, JNF said.

His wife, Neri Bloomfield, is the current national president of the organization.

Mandell received the award from Alan Posluns, JNF Toronto president, at the recent Negev tribute dinner to Douglas Bassett.

Mandell's father, Joseph Tanenbaum was the Negev Dinner honoree in 1972.

Mandell is the daughter of Faye and Joseph Tanenbaum, founders of Runnymede Corp., one of Canada's premier residential and industrial construction companies.

Being born into an influential and highly respected Jewish family taught Mandell the importance of philanthropic work in order to lead and assist by example, JNF said. Over the years, she has been involved actively with a myriad of Jewish organizations representing causes and institutions in Canada and Israel.

She is currently vice-president of JNF Canada and a former chairman of JNF's national management committee.

Frances Mandell receives the Bernard M. Bloomfield medal from JNF Toronto president Alan Posluns.

Mandell is married to Marvin Mandell and has three children, a son, Auby, and daughters Gail and Jessica. They have one grandchild, Joshua Mandell.

Hamilton Jewish group outlines plans for year

By MOURA WOLPERT

HAMILTON —

Improved fiscal responsibility, an enlarged United Jewish Welfare Fund volunteer committee and close cooperation with all local organizations were among the plans for next year listed by Hamilton Jewish Federation president Phil Leon at the recent combined HJF and Jewish community centre annual meeting here.

Leon also listed as priorities the establishment of good relations with newly elected members of Parliament and the renewal of friendships with re-elected MPs as well as the increasing of ties with other local minority groups.

The well-attended meeting at the JCC heard about last year's achievements: the establishment of a community planning committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Franklyn Shapiro; 'town hall' meetings dealing with public affairs issues organized by public relations chairman Alan Livingston and the continued success of Jewish Social Services under the direction of Carol Krames and co-chairmen Mark Nagler and David Wright.

UJA chairman Gerry Swaye reported on the problems of raising the campaign from its recent average of $800,000 to the hoped for goal of $1.2 to $1.4 million, a feat that, as Leon noted "possibly only Moses can accomplish."

For the first time in many years, fully audited financial reports were presented and resulted in a number of questions being raised from the floor.

Financial problems continue to be serious but a committee established following consultations with UIA Canada is now working under chairman Sheldon Frank to seek ways and means to increase the current campaign.

Reviewing JCC programs and activities since the move to the new building last year, president Michael Kemey commented on the positive response from many areas in the community. But the need for support continues, especially through membership of the JCC, he said.

And reporting on the JC fund raising campaign, Larry Szpirglas reported that it has reached $1.5 million, with close to one half million dollars cash in hand.

The JCC will continue its campaign towards its projected goal of $2.5 million because funds raised for recreational purposes will generate money from government grants.

Security, peace and economy top Israelis' concerns: Abileah

By MOURA WOLPERT

HAMILTON —

For Israelis, the most important questions today are security, peace and the economy and not the "Who is a Jew" issue which has Diaspora Jewry so worried in the wake of the recent election, says Israeli Consul-General Benjamin Abileah.

Nevertheless, speaking about the outcome and repercussions of the recent Knesset elections in the third of a Jewish community centre — sponsored lecture series, Abileah began with what he knew would be uppermost in the minds of his audience.

Israelis do not understand the "Who is a Jew issue simply because for them it is not a problem and Abileah blamed Diaspora Jewry "for its failure in educating the Israeli public about themselves."

It is only now, as a result of lobbying by Diaspora groups, he said, that Israelis are becoming aware of the issue.

Yet, while admitting that lobbying must be done "before something happens and not after," Abileah suggested that it is "extremely premature to make judgments and extremely out of place to try and dictate from here by anything other than expressions of wish."

He noted that of the large numbers of Soviet Jews who immigrated to Israel, many were not Jews and not even converted "and yet none of them were stopped from coming to Israel."

"The question of Who is a Jew has always been with us," said Abileah. Under Israeli law, he explained, matters of personal status are adjudicated by religious courts and changes in the law can only be passed in the Knesset. And so far, he said, "the religious parties have gained very little," succeeding only, he believes, in passing one piece of legislation: "that El Al cannot fly on Shabbat."

The Diaspora's concern over the elections is encouraging the consul-general said, "because it demonstrates that the degree of acceptance of the centrality of Israel by Jewish communities is far greater that most of us in Israel know or see."

The very fact that Jewish communities everywhere want to participate in the political process of Israel by sending delegations, writing letters and petitions and expressing their points of view, he said, "is a very positive thing, not only for Israel but for world Jewry."

Concerning the issues that matter most to the Israelis themselves — security, peace and the economy — Abileah noted that both the major political parties "stand for a lot of things in common."

With regard to the peace process, they differ only in their approach, with Likud sticking to the proposals outlined in the Camp David Accords, while Labor wants to "coax (the Arabs) into a new intitiative" with international powers acting as "an umbrella."

All Israelis agree, he stated, that negotiations with the PLO are out; that Israel "cannot return all the territory, but only part, if at all, and that they cannot allow the existence of a second Palestinian state" because a Palestinian state has been in existence since 1922 and its name is Jordan.

"It is Jordan with whom we have to make a deal and the question of a Palestinian state is not our problem but a problem for the Jordanians and the Palestinians," declared Abileah.

Weizmann summer programs

REHOVOT —

The Weizmann Institute of Science is offering two summer programs which will provide serious science students with the opportunity to work alongside top Weizmann Institute researchers as well as learn about life in Israel.

The 21st International Summer Science Institute, open to exceptional science students who are eligible for university entrance in September, 1989, enables some 75 outstanding students from around the world to focus on current research topics. Laboratory work is supplemented with lectures given by senior institute scientists.

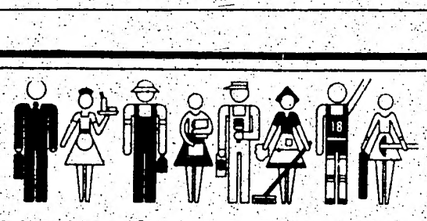
The 1989 program will take place July 12-Aug. 13. The fee for the program is $2,100 U.S. This includes room and board, tuition and tours. It does not include transportation to and from Israel. The application deadline is March 1.

The Karyn Kupcinet International Science School gives senior and graduate science students the opportunity to take part in a research program in their field of interest.

To be admitted to this program the candidate must give evidence of serious interest in research (previous experience is an advantage) and be prepared to work for at least 10 weeks.

The stipend is sufficient to cover food, lodging and some pocket money. No travel funds are available. Application deadline for this program is February 15, 1989.

For further information call 733-9220 in Toronto, 481-0466 in Montreal, 236-3391 in Ottawa and 682-8332 in Vancouver.



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* * *

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Organizations and People

Perspectives have epitomized helplessness as well as defiance

Israeli views on Holocaust have been varied

By
ANCIL KASHETSKY

TORONTO —

Israelis are haunted by the Holocaust and in the last 40 years, the Jewish state has integrated the traumatic event into its collective memory in different ways, says an Israeli history professor.

Speaking on The Holocaust: An Israeli Perspective at the Holy Blossom Temple, Prof. Dalia Ofer of the Hebrew University said the Holocaust has meant different things at different times to Israelis.

Going back to when reports about the killings reached the Yishuv (Jewish Palestine under the British Mandate), Ofer said Jews there were perplexed and frustrated when the magnitude of the destruction in Europe became known in 1943 and 1944.

"Finally, at the war's end, there was a mixture of anger, guilt and shame and the Jews of Palestine became like an orphan," she said.

So, during the period of 1945-49, the need for political and military power became the important lesson of the Holocaust, Ofer said. Many of the immigrants who played a central role in the struggle for independence were partisan and ghetto fighters.

"The message they had for the Jewish people was that it was essential to have political and military power. This was one way to ensure that the Holocaust could never happen again," she said.

There was no deep confrontation with the Holocaust in the 50s, Ofer continued. "Questions were asked on a personal level, or treated in the newspapers in a rather superficial way and it was not at all a literary subject."

The Eichmann trial in 1961 was a traumatic event for Israelis, she explained. Many people in Israel had never heard of Eichmann, and during the long months between his capture in 1959 and his trial in 1961, every Israeli went through a long learning experience about the Holocaust, Ofer added.

The trial opened a stream of testimonies and the Holocaust became a daily topic, she said. "The totality of the evil became known and the Nazi bureaucracy and death factory expressed vividly. Why and how was this possible, who was to blame? The symbol of the Jew as the helpless victim now replaced the fighting hero symbol which had become popular in the War of Independence."

For Israelis in the years following the trial, a more balanced view of the tragedy emerged, Ofer said. Indeed, she added, the Holocaust became a universal symbol of human and moral collapse in the world.

Ofer pointed to the Six Day War in 1967 as a turning point in the national conscience of the country. Before the war, especially during the two weeks before the outbreak of the conflict, Israelis once more felt isolated and abandoned. "The self-image of Jews as victims was a very familiar one from our collective past."

Ironically, after the stunning victory, Israelis felt very uneasy about being a victor in a strong army, she said, adding that many soldiers actually identified strongly with the Arab victims. "The conflict we felt between being the victim and victor still endured."

Since 1967 the subject of the Holocaust has been conducted in a sophisticated way as reflected in the history, philosophy, literature and theatre in Israel. However she regretted that the Holocaust is often misused by political parties.

In introducing the speaker Rabbi Dow Murmur, spiritual leader of Holy Blossom Temple, called the need to eradicate the evil and the need to guarantee Jewish survival the primary debate for Jews today.

These perspectives of the Holocaust on the collective memory of Israel was part of the Holocaust in Perspective 50 Years After Kristallnacht lecture series sponsored by the temple.

Project reveals victims' names

TORONTO —

Over 100 Jews in London, Ont., now know the names of family members lost in the Holocaust because of a unique project by a local physician.

Dr. Daniel Lowe of London traced the family connections of the London Jewish community to the Holocaust and recorded them in the London Yizkor Book.

Lowe, chairman of the London Holocaust Committee, told a recent meeting of the Toronto Jewish Genealogical Society that in the past two years 128 people in the London Jewish community have been entered in the book, as well as 6,000 of their relatives who perished in the Holocaust.

Lowe said he undertook the project, now named The Lois Lowe Yizkor Project, in memory of his late wife, primarily to address the neglect which has come from people being misinformed about their own connection to the Holocaust.

He hoped the project would help people grasp the loss of 40% of the Jews in the world during World War II on a scale people could relate to as well as connect the tragedy to the London Jewish community.

The book records the names of people who perished in the Holocaust, their birthplace, birthdate, year and place of their death, as well as Jews of London related to the victims.

"The newly born are also added to the book which connects the present to the past and makes the holocaust take on a new meaning to the living," Lowe said.

The Yizkor Book, whose figures include Jews who were born or had died in London, or listed in the 1981 census, is a high form of tzadaka because it gives back dignity to those who can never repay us, Lowe said. "The biological clock is ticking away, the elderly survivors are dying off, so it is important to rescue as many names as possible."

The book also records the names of Gentiles who tried to save Jewish lives. "We find from this that more people tried to help Jews than we had earlier imagined."

Lowe said, except for the name of an uncle who was killed, he knew little about his own connection to the Holocaust before the project and this made him wonder how it was possible that the first generation following the Holocaust can be so unaware of what happened in their own family.

The Yizkor Book was also a way to remove the stigma of the nameless victims and allow the surviving family members to form a bond with them, Lowe told the gathering at the Shaarei Shomayim. "This way our generation will know themselves better, for just as we were all present at Sinai, so we were all present at the Holocaust," he said.

The Project had the official endorsement of the London Jewish Federation, the National Council of Jewish Women and the London Holocaust Society. There is a display of the Yizkor book each Yom Kippur in all three London synagogues.

While compiling the book, Lowe said there were numerous obstacles, such as overcoming the way families suppress memories of the Holocaust. There was also the absence of the 1921 and 1931 Polish census containing the full names and professions of Jews which was lost in wartime bombing. As well as the problem of memory, "people have a hard time recalling the maiden names of relatives."

Lowe said he started the project by tracing his own family's connection to the Holocaust. Interviews with one elderly cousin in Chicago, for example, provided him with a list of 150 names. Postcards also played an important role in his search for names.

One card written in Budapest in 1940 by an uncle later killed by the Nazis and another card sent to his grandfather in Montreal in 1941 furnished him with another name of a child whom he was able to trace having been killed later in the war.

He believes the Yizkor Project is the first attempt to systematically document the impact of the Holocaust on an entire North American community. "We hope that it will serve as a model for other communities to do the same before the biological clock makes it impossible." — A.K.

Heritage language elections January 8

TORONTO —

An election for a Hebrew representative and an alternate to the Heritage Language advisory committee of the Toronto Board of Education will be held Sunday, Jan. 8 at noon in the main floor lounge of the downtown Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. at Bloor and Spadina.

Any person whose language or cultural heritage is Hebrew and is a public school taxpayer in Metro Toronto is eligible to vote or be a candidate in the election. Any full-time or part-time employee of the board is ineligible.

The election is for a 3-year term. The Toronto Board offers Hebrew Language 2½ hours a week.

Among the duties of the representative are ensuring that the concerns of the Jewish community are brought to the attention of the advisory committee and to ensure that the community is kept informed about the program, a board spokesman said.

The advisory committee, which also includes some trustees, makes recommendations to the board on such issues as curriculum, funding, qualifications of teachers, scheduling of classes and how the program can be integrated into general studies.

For information call the Community Services Office, 591-8355.

JCC gets govt. grant

TORONTO —

A Wintario Facility Management grant of $4,220 has been awarded to the Jewish Community Centre of Toronto.

The grant will be used to increase awareness of the centre's programs and involves two 2-day marketing workshops for board members, managment and program staff.

"Individuals at the Jewish Community Centre are to be commended for their initiative and talents," said Monte Kwinter, MPP for Wilson Heights, in announcing the grant on behalf of Hugh O'Neil, minister of tourism and recreation.

"This important organization has done a great deal to build awareness and respect for our important cultural heritage."

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Adath Sholom Brotherhood
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The Hon. Monte Kwinter
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Shabbat Services
Saturday, January 7, 1989
Services: 9 a.m. at
864 Sheppard Avenue West,
(corner Wilmington)
EVERYONE WELCOME

City of Toronto
Refuse Collection Schedule

Friday, December 23, 1988
Monday, December 26, 1988 and
Monday, January 2, 1989

are being observed as holidays within the Civic Service.

Collection of garbage for Thursday (December 22nd) and Friday (December 23rd) will be made on Thursday, December 22, 1988.

Night collection for Thursday (December 22nd) will be made on Wednesday, December 21, 1988.

Night collection for Friday (December 23rd) will be made on Thursday, December 22, 1988.

Collection of garbage for Monday (December 26th) will be made on Tuesday December 27, 1988.

Collection of garbage for Tuesday (December 27th) will be made on Wednesday, December 28, 1988.

THERE WILL BE NO BLUE BOX AND NEWSPAPERS RECYCLING COLLECTION ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1988.

Regular collection of garbage will be made on Thursday, December 29, 1988.

Regular collection of garbage will be made on Friday, December 30, 1988.

Collection of garbage for Monday (January 2nd, 1989) will be made on Tuesday, January 3, 1989.

Collection of garbage for Tuesday (January 3rd) will be made on Thursday, January 5, 1989.

Night collection for Tuesday (January 3rd) will be made on Wednesday, January 4, 1989.

THERE WILL BE A REGULAR BLUE BOX AND NEWSPAPERS RECYCLING COLLECTION ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1989.

Collection of garbage for Thursday (January 5th) and Friday (January 6th) will be made on Friday, January 6, 1989.

There are 16 Recycling Depots for glass and metal containers in Toronto. During October, 580 tonnes of newspapers, 111 tonnes of glass and 7 tonnes of tin were collected. For further information call 392-7742.

PLEASE DO NOT PLACE BROKEN GLASS OR OTHER SHARP OBJECTS IN PLASTIC GARBAGE BAGS OR YOUR BLUE BOX.

R.M. Bremner, P.Eng., F.I.C.E.
Commissioner of Public Works

Leaves B'nai B'rith League after nine years

Shefman named to Ontario human rights post

By
JEFF ROSEN

TORONTO —

Alan Shefman, director of B'nai B'rith Canada's League for Human Rights for the past nine years, has joined the Ontario Human Rights Commission to help the government agency develop a higher public profile.

Shefman, 39, was recently appointed director of education and communications at the commission.

In his new job, Shefman said he will work to improve communications with the public and ethnocultural groups such as B'nai B'rith and Canadian Jewish Congress to let them know what the commission is doing in the field of human rights.

He will also be responsible for creating educational materials to allow people to better understand and utilize the commission's facilities.

He said the new position was created as part of the overall reorganization which has been going on at the OHRC since Raj Anand became chief commissioner a year ago. It is being done to make the entire organization more effective, he added.

Shefman said his experience in working in the field of human rights attracted him to the position.

"The Ontario Human Rights Commission is perhaps the most significant human rights commission in Canada," he said. "It plays a major role in the life of this province."

Shefman added that the idea of helping to build a new division from scratch also appealed to him, pointing out that he was able to do that when he joined the League for Human Rights in 1980.

"The League for Human Rights was very much of an empty book, ready for action," Shefman recalled, in a separate interview with B'nai B'rith's newspaper. "There was just the structure and name. The only regional committee that existed was in Quebec.

"Furthermore, the scope of the League was restricted because of our involvement with the now defunct Joint Community Relations Committee."

Now, nine years later, Shefman said he is pleased the League is a major player in the field of human rights in the Jewish and non-Jewish communities.

Harry Bick, chairman of the League, also expressed satisfaction with the League and Shefman's accomplishments saying: "We owe Alan a great measure of thanks for the outstanding work he has accomplished fighting racism and anti-semitism. Under his directorship the League has become by far the most significant voice in the Jewish community on all issues of human rights and defamation.

"The League has also become well-recognized and respected nationally for the issues that it has raised and defended and the stands it has taken on general human rights issues."

Looking at some of these achievements, Shefman said enjoyed recruiting and working with the many people who volunteered their time and efforts, as well as building programs for the Jewish and general community.

In particular, he expressed satisfaction in helping create the League's Review of Anti-Semitism,

Alan Shefman

an annual review of anti-semitism.

"It's the most extensive survey of its kind in the world," Shefman said.

By building up a body of scientific data on anti-semitic activities in Canada, Shefman said the League has been able to examine a larger number of ethnic groups.

Shefman said the development of the Holocaust and Hope educators' tours has been one of his most satisfying achievements as it focuses on the League's role as an educator.

Shefman also admitted he faced a number of difficult issues over the years, including the development of a strategy to counter the growth of Holocaust denial.

This has included a wide-ranging program of formal education and sensitizing government and the media. It also included working with the courts on the various hate propaganda trials, with the Ernst Zundel affair being the most significant.

"The first trial was perhaps the most difficult that I was involved in over the last nine years," he told B'nai B'rith. "The difficulty was not from the viewpoint of responding to his hateful lies, but rather in confronting the unknown environment of having the criminal courts deal with the matter.

"In the end, I believe that in cases such as Zundel's (as well as Jim Keegstra and a few others), the courts are the proper place to address racism and bigotry."

While racking up a number of accomplishments, Shefman admitted he left with some unresolved concerns.

He said he is disappointed with the slow speed the federal government is moving in dealing with war criminals. As well, he warned that the Jewish community is not taking the lead in dealing with social causes as much as it should.

In parting words to his successor, Shefman said the new League director must ensure it continues to be a responsible and activist agency and avoid the urge to work out of the backroom corridors of power.

Meat strike over in Winnipeg

By
MYRON LOVE

WINNIPEG —

Winnipeg's kosher butchers, caterers and delicatessens are breathing easier now that striking meat packers have settled with East-West Packers Ltd., Best Brand Meats Ltd. and Forgan Wholesale Meats Ltd. and returned to work.

East-West Packers is the largest independent meat processor in Western Canada and the place where Winnipeg's shoichets do most of their work. When 320 workers walked out on the three plants in September, the city's locally produced kosher meat supply was effectively shut down.

"The strike has been a nuisance," said Ed Reiss of Desserts Plus, a kosher caterer and delicatessen. "We haven't been able to make chopped liver for six weeks. We couldn't get any. We had to bring in meat from Toronto in bulk. It was expensive and inconvenient."

"We had to raise our prices because it cost us in freight charges to bring meat in," said Eppie Rappaport of Omnistsky & Sons, a Winnipeg kosher butcher. "We couldn't count on a regular supply either."

The workers struck in protest against the companies' offer of a 1-year wage freeze followed by a wage based on the average settlement reached by cut and kill plants in Alberta.

The recent settlement reached freezes workers' wages at the present $12.15 an hour for two years and includes a $200 signing bonus for all workers for signing the new agreement.

The workers have returned to their jobs at the plants.

"I hope we can now get our meat as needed again," said Reiss. "I hope the settlement doesn't mean higher prices."

BB airing TV ads

TORONTO —

Six public service announcements featuring TV stars and containing the message "Prejudice is something we can all do without "are being shown across Canada as part of a project sponsored by B'nai B'rith's League for Human Rights.

The announcements were originally produced by the New York-based Anti-Defamation League and adapted by the League for Human Rights for Canadian audiences.

Hillside Foods

!! SAVING YOU MORE !!

"Product of Canada" 10 lb. Poly Bags Baking Potatoes 1.69 ea.
Prod. of U.S.A. Red Empire Grapes 1.52 kg. 69¢ lb.

Prod. of U.S.A. Large Size Tomatoes 49¢ lb. 1.08 kg.
Product of Ontario 2 lb. Cello Carrots 2/99¢

Hostess Potato Chips 99¢ 200 gr.

2% Partly Skimmed Milk "4 L. Bag" 2.49 "Limit 2"

Canada Grade 'A' Beef Lean Ground Beef 4.39 kg. 1.99 lb.

"Canada Grade A" Prime Rib Roast 6.59 kg. 2.99 lb.

"Freshly Baked" 4" Blueberry & Cherry Pies 99¢

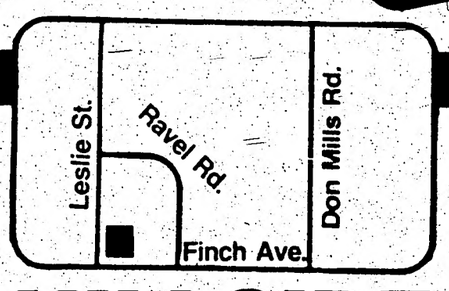
"Fresh Baked" Garlic Bread 1.19 Per Loaf

CANADA DRY Ale, Soda, Tonic 750 ml. 49¢ + Dep.

ASTRO Sour Cream 500 ml Tub 1.29

Mild & Medium Cheese 8.80 kg. 3.99

Fresh Pizza 12" Deluxe 3.99



Monday — Wednesday 9-9
Thursday— Friday 9-10
Saturday 8:30-9
Sunday 10-5

Although we strive for accuracy in copy, unintentional errors may occur. We reserve the right to correct any errors.

prices in effect Mon., Dec. 19/88 to Sat., Dec. 24/88

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Organizations and People

What's New

By
MIRIAM HERMAN

DEADLINE SCHEDULE

Just to remind you that the deadline for the Jan. 19 issue goes back to the regular Thursday schedule. The deadline for that issue is Jan. 5. I will be at my desk all that day to receive your calls and sort my mail.

The deadline for the Jan. 5 and 12 issues is now past. And as you know, we will not be publishing the Dec. 29 issue.

Friday, Dec. 23

HAPPY MUSICAL HOUR

On Friday, Dec. 23, concert pianist **Lola Julitta Burns** will present a program of birthday, Chanukah and holiday songs at Lincoln Place Nursing Home, 429 Walmer Rd. The time is 2-3 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 28

IN CONCERT

A Chanukah celebration featuring concert pianist **Lola Julitta Burns** in a program of Chanukah, Jewish and Hebrew music, is taking place Wednesday, Dec. 28, from 7.30-8.30 p.m. at Baycrest Centre, Posluns Auditorium, 3560 Bathurst St. Everyone is welcome.

Saturday, Dec. 31

NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER DANCE

Congregation Habonim is holding a New Year's eve dinner and dance on Saturday, Dec. 31, beginning at 7.30 p.m. at the synagogue, 5 Glen Park Ave. (Bathurst and Glencairn).

Music will be provided by the Nathan Lustig Trio. There will be door prizes, circle dancing and a cash bar.

Admission is by reservation only. Tickets, at $40 per person for members and $45 for non-members, include dinner and dance. Call **Margot Barnett** at 633-7611 for reservations and information.

Tuesday, Jan. 3

T'NACH STUDY GROUP

The T'nach Study Group session on Tuesday, Jan. 3, will focus on the Book of Judges, Chapter VI, with **Rabbi Pinchas Brumer**.

The group meets at 8.15 p.m. at Associated Hebrew Schools, 3630 Bathurst St.

Wednesday, Jan. 4

THE POMEGRANATE GUILD

The Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Needlework will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 4, at 8 p.m. at Holy Blossom Temple, 1950 Bathurst St.

Artist **Laya Crust** will present Designing With the Aleph-Bet, Part 2.

Guests are welcome. For more information, call **Sue Krivel** at 630-1904.

KEEPING KOSHER

Aish HaTorah is presenting Basics, an innovative series of individual seminars exploring the wit and wisdom of Judaism, geared to young professionals 25-45 years of age. It continues on Wednesday, Jan. 4, with Keeping Kosher — The Reasons For This and Other Commandments.

The seminars are held at the Aish HaTorah Centre, 296A Wilson Ave. Registration is at 7.30 p.m. and the class begins at 8. For further information, call the centre at 636-7530.

And What Else Is New...

EMUNAH WOMEN LECTURE SERIES

Emunah Women is presenting a series of three lectures by **Rabbi Pinchas Brumer** on the topic Jewish Windows on the World: Fundamentals of Jewish Thought.

Lecture dates are Tuesdays, Jan. 10, 17 and 24, at 8 p.m. at Ulpanot Orot, 45 Canyon Ave.

For further information, call **Ruth** at 635-9847.

ORT-LEO BAECK JOINT PROJECT

Toronto Women's ORT and Leo Baeck Day School are participating in a joint project.

Leo Baeck students are currently collecting outer wear, part of their annual coat drive. This year, thanks to the efforts of grade 6 teacher and Toronto Women's ORT vice-president **Sandy Berkal**, the school has decided to donate half the clothing they receive to the ORT Togs & Treasures Shop.

Toronto Women's ORT opened the retail store several weeks ago at 1382 Queen St. E. ORT Togs & Treasures is a real "department store," selling new and previously enjoyed merchandise, ranging from clothing for the family to housewares, home furnishings, toys and books.

TEL-AIDE JEWISH DISTRESS LINE

Tel-Aide: the Jewish Distress Line volunteers would be happy to spend time with you on the phone. They are available to listen at 636-9610 most days, evenings and Sundays.

All Tel-Aide listeners have taken an extensive training course and are well qualified to listen.

Tel-Aide is a call-in service only, and is sponsored by Toronto Jewish Congress.

THE JCC SINGERS

The JCC Singers are a group of dedicated citizens who share a common bond — the love of singing. After another successful year with a tight schedule of performances, the group is now starting to prepare new programs for 1989.

If you are 55 and over and would like to sing with this dynamic and friendly choir and would like to compensate a cold winter with heartwarming songs, just come along to Room 221 at the Jewish Community Centre, 4588 Bathurst St.

Sopranos, altos, tenors and basses are welcome to train with the well known conductor **Esther Ghan-Firestone** accompanied by the accomplished pianist **Sara Barkin-Sandler**. You will enjoy learning new songs and singing in performance on stage. To read music is not a prerequisite.

For bookings and information, call the president, **Dolly Brown** at 636-9468.

VOLUNTEER AWARDS NOMINATIONS

The City of North York, in cooperation with the North York Volunteer Centre, is inviting nominations for its Volunteer of the Year Awards.

Any North York community group, organization or club can nominate one or more individual or an entire organization for their voluntary contribution of time and effort in helping to make North York such a great place to live.

Awards are given in a number of categories covering all aspects of community service. Guidelines and criteria as well as nomination forms are available at the North York Volunteer Centre, 148 Wilson Ave., (call 481-6194) or the public information office of the City of North York, North York City Hall, 5100 Yonge St., (call 224-6085). Forms will be mailed to you or can be picked up.

All nominations for the 1989 Volunteers of the Year Awards must be returned to the North York Volunteer Centre by Jan. 27, 1989. A special ceremony will be held during Volunteer Week in April to honor each of the winners.

LEAH POSLUNS THEATRE SCHOOL

The Leah Posluns Theatre School, 4588 Bathurst St., announces that new courses beginning Jan. 20, will offer Creative Drama for children; Acting and Scriptwriting for teens; and Acting, Improvisation, Musical Theatre and Backstage Courses for adults.

All courses are taught by first-rate theatre professionals. Call 636-1880, ext. 230 for information.

BOOK REVIEW

Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood is presenting a book review of The Messiah of Stockholm by **Cynthis Ozick** on Wednesday, Jan. 18. The book will be reviewed by **Elaine Newton**.

The time is 8 p.m. at the temple, 1950 Bathurst St. The charge is $5 sisterhood members, $10 non-members.

NEWTONBROOK 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Newtonbrook Secondary School invites all graduates to the 25th anniversary reunion taking place May 12.

For further information or if you have any photos or memorabilia that you think might be of interest, contact **George Neshevich** at the school at 223-8441.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to assist in the cleaning and alteration shop at the Wagman Centre to help behind the counter Monday and Thursday from 9.30 a.m. to noon. A professional tailor is also needed.

For more information, call Volunteer Services at 789-5131, ext. 2572.

SISTERHOOD MEETING

Join Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood for lunch and celebrate a Tu B'Shevat seder at the general meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 24, at 12.30 p.m. The guest speaker, **Dian Cohen**, will discuss Where to Put Your Money.

The charge is $13 sisterhood members, $18 non-members. Babysitting is available upon request at $5 per child. Reservations must be made by Jan. 17. Call **Olivia** at 789-3291.

NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION

Make your reservations now and combine a cross-country ski holiday with a New Year's Eve party at the Maple Lake Resort and Conference Centre near Parry Sound Dec. 30-Jan.2.

The cost is $200 per person, double occupancy, which includes accommodation, all meals (under supervision of Toronto Jewish Congress Orthodox Division), cross-country ski classes, a wide variety of indoor and outdoor activities, a New Year's eve dinner and party with deejay. Families and singles are welcome.

For more information, call the Jewish Camp Council at 630-1180.

KIDNEY FOUNDATION VOLUNTEERS

Join the 25th anniversary celebration of the Kidney Foundation of Canada, and make new friends. Become a March door-to-door campaign team leader or canvasser. A few hours or a few evenings of your time can make a difference to a person who has kidney disease.

Call **Linda Sullivan** at the Toronto & District Chapter at 445-0373 for details.

ICJW SEMINAR IN JERUSALEM

National Council of Jewish Women in Canada representatives who attended the recent International Council of Jewish Women Rosa and Esteban Herczeg Seminar in Jerusalem were national president **Penny Yellen** of Winnipeg, **Helen Marr** of Toronto, vice-president of Canada International Council of Jewish Women; **Sheila Freeman**, immediate past president, NCJW of Canada and **Vivian Caplan** of Ottawa Section. Delegates at this conference came from 18 countries including Yugoslavia.

Helen Marr

The theme of the seminar was Women's Leadership in Jewish History: Implications for Today and Tomorrow. The agenda included a memorial service for the 50th anniversary of Kristallnacht at Yad Vashem followed by an address by **President Chaim Herzog**, and an address on the closing evening by **Dan Ronen**, minister of education and culture, on the topic Forty Years of Statehood — Facing the Future.

Prior to the seminar, the international executive council held a business meeting at which time Helen Marr was nominated president-elect of the International Council of Jewish Women. Mrs. Marr is currently international vice-president of ICJW. She has served as president of NCJW of Canada and president of the Toronto Section.

SINGERS TAKE NOTE

People with choir experience and a music background are invited to join an established choir whose repertoire includes Israeli and classic music and jazz. All voices are welcome.

The choir meets every Wednesday from 8-10 p.m. at the Jewish Community Centre North-East Valley branch, 7015 Leslie St.

For information, contact **Asa Lebel** at 636-8000, ext. 330, days, or 886-3806 evenings.

[Cont'd. on page 23]

KOLLEL DAT DINNER

Seen at the recent annual dinner for Kollel Dat were (left to right) guest of honor Mendle (Max) Rubenstein; Rabbi Herbert Bomzer, professor of Talmud, Yeshiva University; dinner chairman Rabbi Moses Burak and guest of honor Hyman Orfus.

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Organizations and People

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 22]

at the jcc

Winterfun, a winter break program at the Jewish Community Centre Bloor Y branch for school children 5-10 years of age, still has limited space available for the week of Dec. 27-30. For information, contact **Beverly Brock** at 924-6211.

Registration for winter programs at the Bloor Y is underway. You can register by phone, mail or in person. The Bloor Y address is 750 Spadina Ave., Toronto M5S 2J2. The phone number is 924-6211.

Join in a delicious brunch and an afternoon of bridge on Monday, Jan. 2, from 11.30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the JCC North-East Valley branch, 7015 Leslie St. The cost is $5.50 per person. You must pre-register one week in advance. For more information and to register, call **Risa** at

for seniors

Earl Bales Seniors' Club is presenting a Chassidic concert on video on Thursday, Dec. 22, at 2 p.m. at the club house (in the park at Bathurst and Sheppard)...The next movie is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 4, at 2 p.m. There is no charge for members. Non-members are charged $1...Partial activities during January, February and through to mid-March will include barber service on Mondays from 9 a.m. to noon; ballroom and line dancing on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon; art classes on Tuesdays from 1-3 p.m., and fitness on Wednesdays from 10-11 a.m. Full activities will commence Monday, March 20...Saturday night dances at the club house will continue as scheduled as will the dances with a live band at the community centre. All these programs will be held weather permitting. Be sure to call **Charles Cohen** at 741-4462 to check if weather is bad, and also for information during this time.

Workmen's Circle Social Club will be meeting for lunch and bingo on Tuesday, Dec. 27, at noon at 471 Lawrence Ave. W. Remember, this is the last meeting before the Miami trip. Tickets and insurance must be picked up at that time. For information, call **Shirley Grotell** at 222-7727 or **Max Glick** at 226-4093.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club, 470 Glencairn Ave., is concentrating on a program for mental stimulation in the near future...Work has commenced on a very comprehensive bulletin for the summer and fall of 1989. Members will be advised when it is completed. For information, call **Lena** at 785-5773 or **Ruth** at 224-5923.

Since most of its members are away by now, the Dec. 28 meeting of **Beth Sholom Seniors** has been cancelled.

The LZA Seniors Club has announced a special Yom Ha'atzmaut tour to Israel. All arrangements have been completed for an exciting 2-week trip, which is jointly sponsored by the Labor Zionist Alliance and the Canadian Association for Labor Israel. For details, call the Borochov Centre at 630-9444...Toronto seniors are invited to join the group daily from noon to 4 p.m. at the Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave., for pleasant company and entertainment, cards, chess and light lunches.

Regular programs for seniors at the Bloor Y will resume Jan. 9. For information, call **Beverly Brock** at 924-6211.

Senior Sinai's Golden Book is still ongoing. Place your donations with **Frances Malkin** at 226-3252 or **Ida Himmelstein** at 630-3862 between 7 and 9 p.m.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club for Israelis and Hebrew-speaking persons 55 and over meets every Wednesday evening from 7.30-9.30 at the 789-5131, ext. 2273.

Club Chaverim of the Jewish Community Centre North-East Valley branch meets on Mondays from 1-3 p.m. at the Valley, 7015 Leslie St. For more information, call 889-0813.

Due to the holiday season, **Beth Tzedec Friendship Club Plus 50** will not be meeting Dec. 27 or Jan. 3.

At the **Wagman Centre**, 55 Ameer Ave. — the Canadian Israeli Club Aluma invites you to join the new Wednesday afternoon program for Israelis 55 years of age and over who enjoy socializing and good Hebrew conversation. The group meets from 2-3.30 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge. Refreshments are served. For further information, contact **Shelley Dunkelman** at 789-5131, ext. 2273 days or **Ephraim Dloomy** at 631-7546 evenings...Due to the holidays, there will be no programs on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 25, or Tuesday evening, Dec. 27, in the Assembly Room.

CENTRE FOR CREATIVE LIVING

The Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is located at 1003 Steeles Ave. W. The phone number is 225-2112.

In the continuing series of public forums on Elder Abuse, the Awareness Project on Abuse of the Elderly is presenting **Anne Marie Johnston** of Concerned Friends, who will be talking on Elder Abuse in Institutions — What We Can Do To Help. The date is Thursday, Jan. 5, at 1.30 p.m. For further information, call **Sheila Zane** at 225-2112.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre's Reminiscence Group will be meeting on Wednesdays from 10-11 a.m. on Jan. 4 and 18 and Feb. 1 and 15. Join nurse **Judy Johnson** and other seniors in a memory sharing experience which will help you feel better as you recall early childhood experiences, early fashions, past historical events and such.

Healthy Holidays, an informal lecture on how to get the most out of holiday times, is set for Thursday, Dec. 29, from 1-3 p.m.

A very special event is planned for Wednesday, Dec. 28. **Cantor Albert Feldman** will warm your hearts with a program of Yiddish music beginning at 1.30 p.m. Refreshments will be served. The charge is $1.25 members, $1.75 non-members. Buy your tickets at the door.

Any information about special events, day trips and long tours can be obtained by calling **Barbara Zigler** at 225-2112.

singles events

Singles Events is an advertising feature of the Canadian Jewish News. ***Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.*** *For rates or to place an ad, please call Shayla at 422-2528.*

Metro Toronto Singles Presents — Third Annual Chanukah Party, Saturday, December 24, 7:00 p.m. (Christmas Eve) at **Berlin,** 2335 Yonge St. (north of Eglinton). **Traditionally our largest party of the year.** 500 people regularly attend. $10.00. 222-7111.

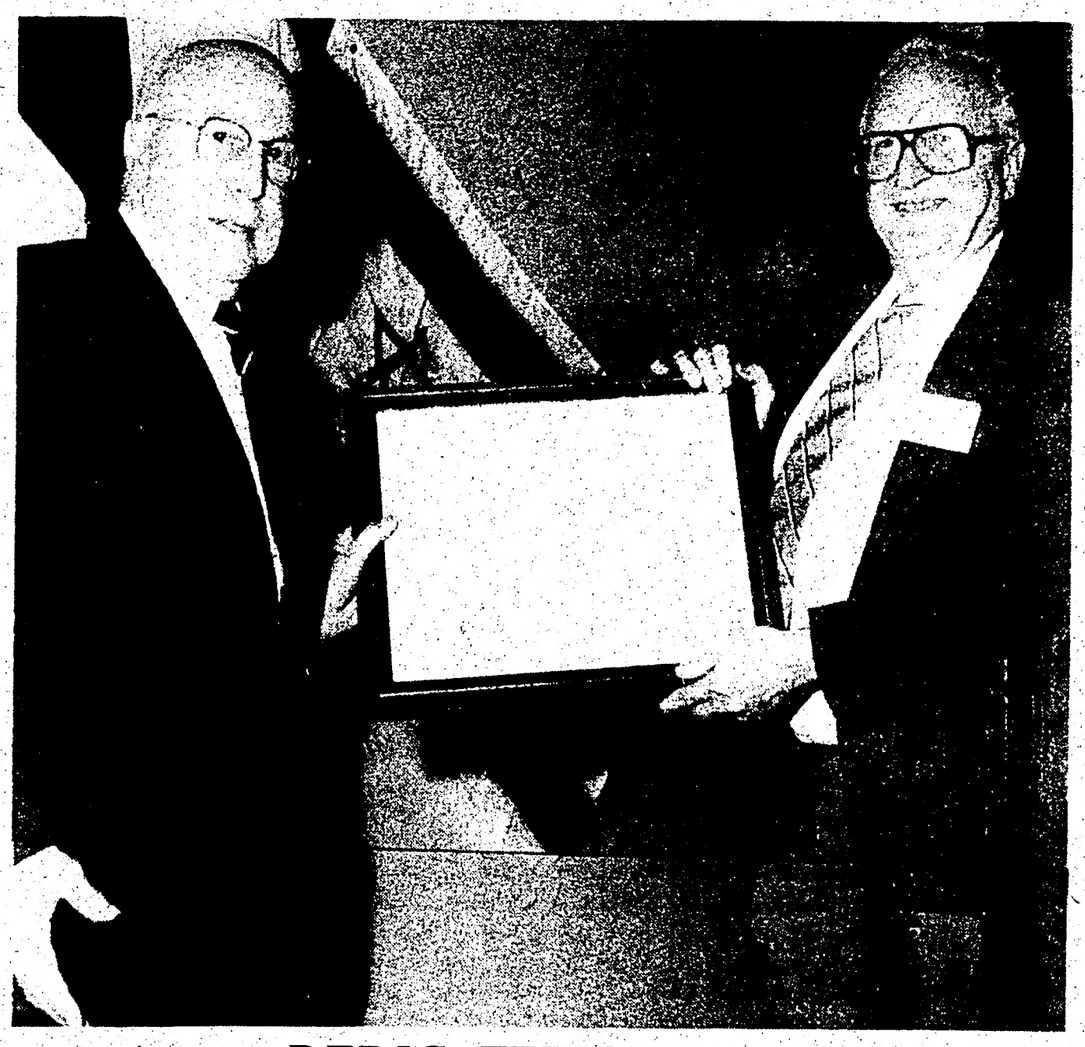
Lishar Productions Presents — A Christmas Party at **Tangerine,** 240 Richmond St. W., on Saturday, December 24 at 8:00 p.m. Tickets $10 in advance, $12 at the door. **Limited number of tickets available.** For more info please call 783-6261.

Mayfair West Racquet Club, 3855 Chesswood Dr., Downsview, and Metro Toronto Singles are organizing a special New Year's Eve Singles Party, Saturday, December 31, in our newly renovated lounge. Tennis round-robin from 7-10 p.m., Dance 9:30 p.m. Cost $20 per person. Dance only $10. Reserve early. Call Marcia Levine 638-1010, or Sid 222-7111.

Singles Congregations Network — Oneg Shabbat, December 23, at Beth Shalom Synagogue, 1445 Eglinton W., Gordon Wolfe speaking on The Changing Role of the Family. 8:00 p.m. Everyone welcome.

Partytime Productions Presents — Balloon Party at Hannibals, 5075 Yonge Street, North of Sheppard. Saturday, December 24, 7:30 p.m. $5 in advance at Hannibals, $7 at door. Info — Steve 783-8098.

Northeast Valley JCC Singles Network invites you to their "Winter Snowflakes and Sunshine" Dance, Sunday December 25, 8:30 p.m. Disc Jockey, refereshments, cash bar. Admission $7.00. 7015 Leslie st. For more information call 889-0813.



DEDICATED SERVICE

Prof. Leo Yaffe (left) receives an award from Dr. Louis Simonovitch at the recent annual meeting of the Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science held in Toronto. Yaffe was cited for his contribution to the Weizmann Institute over the years. [Graphic Artists photo]

About People

CAMPUS OUTREACH COORDINATOR

The Jewish Community Centre of Toronto has announced the appointment of **Lysa Springer** as the new campus outreach coordinator. She will be responsible for creating and maintaining vibrant and active Jewish student groups on the Glendon, Scarborough, Seneca and Ryerson campuses.

Lysa brings to her new position years of experience working with university students in Montreal and working with teenagers in Ottawa and Toronto.

SERVICE TO JUDAISM AWARD

Nice things have been happening to **Melville Olsberg** lately! At the annual conference of the National Association of Temple Administrators held in Orlando, Fla., recently, the former executive director of Holy Blossom Temple received the 1st annual award for Service to Judaism. This award was established to recognize the contribution to Judaism, by members of NATA outside their regular duties.

In addition to that, at a recent Holy Blossom Temple Brotherhood executive board meeting, Olsberg was made an honorary life member of the brotherhood, the eighth to be so honored and one of the few who is not a past president. A citation will be presented to him at the brotherhood's closing meeting in May.

Olsberg served as the temple's executive director for 18 years. Currently he is director of membership services.

AGO APPOINTMENT

Sheila Greenspan has been appointed to the position of head of education services of the Art Gallery of Ontario, effective Jan. 9.

In her new position, Mrs. Greenspan will be responsible for directing AGO's educational programs to facilitate the public's awareness and enjoyment of art. She will be in charge of the AGO educational services, including a wide range of programs for elementary and secondary school students, gallery talks, lectures, walking tours, art history courses, the Gallery School, the Edward P. Taylor Audio-Visual Library, workshops, and family programming such as Hands On and Sunday Drop-In Studio.

Mrs. Greenspan comes to the AGO from the Art Gallery of Hamilton where she was head of the department of education, extension and programming since 1974. She is a graduate of the University of Toronto where she received Masters degrees in both art history and musicology.

Born in Jerusalem, Mrs. Greenspan is now a Canadian citizen, married with two children.

A BAR MITZVAH AT 83

Sam Adelkind waited 70 years for his bar mitzvah. Finally, at age 83, he made it!

After emigrating from Russia with his family in 1913, he spent his boyhood in Moose Jaw, Sask. There was no Jewish community there at the time and he missed out on his bar mitzvah. He hoped to celebrate at age 53, then age 63, and again at 73, but schedules and pressures always got in the way. When he reached 83 this year, he told **Rabbi Benjamin Friedberg** that "this is it!" **Cantor Morris Soberman** came out of retirement to coach him and the bar mitzvah took place Dec. 17 at Beth Tzedec Synagogue, of which Adelkind is a founding member. He has been living in Toronto since 1945.

Sam Adelkind

A retired chartered accountant, Adelkind keeps busy as an almost full-time volunteer within his own profession and also working at his son Alan's yacht business. He and his wife **Pearl** also have a daughter, **Sheryl.**

Following the bar mitzvah service, Adelkind celebrated at a luncheon with his family and friends. For the spry octogenarian it was "the realization of a dream."

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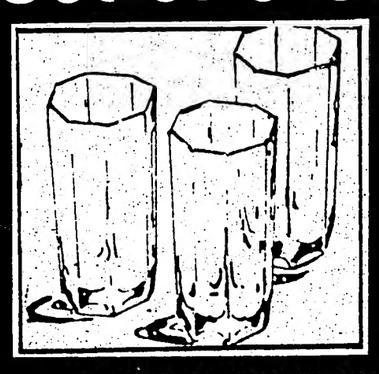

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Organizations and People

Jewish students active on campus

York's JSF participates in Multicultural Week

By
AVI HYMAN

TORONTO —

Doing its part to promote harmony between the members of the school's ethnic communities, the Council of York Students Federation held its annual Multicultural Week recently.

The event was titled Around the World in Four Days and featured displays from many of the school's ethnic clubs, including the Jewish Student Federation.

The JSF table, located prominently in a centrally visible area on campus, had literature and information for students.

JSF produces programs of interest for and by Jewish students studying at York University, whose numbers may well exceed 4,000. Their programs range from social to educational in nature.

In addition to its display, the JSF joined other student groups in making presentations and participating in the activities of Multicultural Week.

JSF staff member Alan Howitt spoke at one event, while other members of JSF participated in a limbo contest. They also put on a slide show as part of their contribution to the event.

Students who manned the Jewish Student Federation table answered questions on programming, but were advised to redirect questions on "stickier" topics (such as Palestinian violence) to more qualified people.

JSF executive member Richard Abel, who also doubled as the JSF's representative for the planning of this event, said the [illegible] new members and further awareness for upcoming programs.

* * *

An event billed as a "Solidarity Rally to celebrate the first anniversary of the uprising in the West Bank and Gaza, the declaration of an independent Palestinian state and in support of the peace camp inside Israel," was held recently at the University of Toronto, coinciding with the last night of Chanukah.

The sponsoring groups for the event were: Jews For A Just Peace, United Jewish People's Order, the Committee for Democratic Palestine, the Canadian Arab Federation, Toronto Universities Middle East Group and the Middle East Forum.

In a statement issued by Jews For A Just Peace, organizers compared the heroes of the Chanukah story to the Arabs of Judea and Samaria.

According to the statement, "the youth in the West Bank and Gaza who throw stones against rifles, and the families who support and protect them, are the Maccabees of today, and our hearts are with them on this Chanukah."

The crowd of several hundred packed into U of T's Medical Sciences Auditorium to hear Abdullah Abdullah, the head of the Canadian office of the Palestine Liberation Organization, tell them that the fate of the "daring victims of Israeli aggression did not prevent the PLO from adopting a peaceful solution," at the meeting in Algiers.

Abdullah further described the year-long uprising as "historical, natural and legal."

The audience was also addressed by two professors, Leo Panitch, a Jew and professor of political science at York University, and Elia Zureik, an Arab and professor of sociology at Queens University.

The evening was chaired by Reverend Betty Marmura of St. Luke's United Church. Several "messages of solidarity" were read from groups representing Chileans, Greeks, Somalians and Black Canadians.

Also included was a message from a University of Toronto local of the Canadian Union of Public Employes, pledging trade union support to the Palestinians.

Lodge project aids muscular dystrophy group, B'nai B'rith

TORONTO —

Leonard Mayzel Lodge has embarked on an ambitious program to aid the Muscular Dystrophy Association and B'nai B'rith Canada by selling a golf coupon booklet of $400 worth of greens fees (plus other discount coupons) for $49.

The booklet offers huge reductions in greens fees at some 20 golf courses across southern Ontario. "We're working on getting a few more public courses to sign up with us, says program co-chairman Norman Ortofsky. "At present we've already got rolling Hills, Glen Cedars and Woodlands as well as 14 others," he said.

Other discounts include sporting goods stores, as well as entertainment spots and restaurants. "We hope to raise at least $100,000 to aid the MDAC and the BBC Foundation," says program co-chairman Marvin Cohen.

Order forms are available from all Canada Trust branches in southern Ontario, the Muscular Dystrophy Association headquarters at 150 Eglinton Ave. E. in Toronto or by phoning Marvin Cohen or Norman Ortofsky at (416) 736-4544 or (416) 663-5705. Visa and Mastercard are accepted.

The Executive Committee and
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Organizations and People

Expert hits unneeded surgery for low back pain

By JANICE ARNOLD

MONTREAL — Chronic low back pain sufferers often undergo unnecessary surgery and other costly, hazardous treatment because doctors, in many cases, do not really know the cause of this condition, says an internationally recognized authority in this field of medicine at the recent 25th annual Andre Aisenstadt Clinical Day at the Jewish General Hospital.

Dr. Alf Nachemson, chairman of the orthopedics department at Suhlgren Hospital in Gothenburg, Sweden, said moderate exercise and avoidance of vibration, smoking and other factors experimentally proven to have a deleterious effect on the structure of the back, can be as beneficial as surgery.

He believes that less than 2% of low back pain patients really need surgery. In fact, he stated that "the greatest gain in some societies, including the United States, perhaps would come by stopping all unnecessary, unproven surgical treatment for low back pain.

"We are presently recognizing that for the majority of our low back pain patients, far too much unnecessary treatment by unproven methods is practiced. A whole industry has been built to take care of the 'predicament' of low back pain.

"In the future, such clinical freedom will not be allowed," he predicted. "It is both unethical and a waste of the patient's and society's resources."

Education can be the best "treatment" in most cases, he said. Patients should be returned to normal functioning as soon as possible through "information, advice, exercise and encouragement."

Nachemson, however, allows that a small number of patients may be helped in the future by improved internal fixation methods, or even new disc dissolving drugs.

Another participant in the clinical day, Dr. Charles Burton, medical director of the Institute of Low Back Care in Minneapolis, said that modern imaging techniques, such as the CT scan, have made it possible to more effectively diagnose and treat disc disease.

Dr. John Frymoyer, director of the McClure Musculoskeletal Research Centre at the University Health Centre in Burlington, Vt., said he has found anti-depressants can also be beneficial if a disability is not diagnosed.

If a disability is present, Frymoyer advises "intense rehabilitation efforts favoring function, rather than pain relief."

JGH orthopedics chief Dr. Alexander Hadjipavlou said this year's topic was chosen because "billions of tax dollars are spent annually to treat and research the problem of low back pain, yet there is as so far no clear-cut solution.

"Low back pain is the most costly benign medical condition, and its magnitude is such that it can be characterized as a social plague."

EARLY BIRD RAFFLE WINNER

David Miller looks on as Deena Schiller (right) and Perla Sabovich verify the ticket of the Netivot HaTorah Raffle "early bird" winner, M. Dotan of Vancouver. The grand prize draw will take place Wednesday, Dec. 28. For ticket information, call 636-4050.

AMBULANCE DONATED

The family of the late Fred Grossman, with the help of the Ostrovitzer Society, has contributed an ambulance to Kibbutz Usha in the Galil region throughout the Canadian Association for Labor Israel. With Ruth Grossman are her sons (seated left to right) Eric and Stanley and (standing left to right) Melvin and Robert. [Michael Rumack photo]

NCJW GENERAL MEETING

At a recent general meeting of the National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto Section, held at the Council House, the Lily Goldstein Branch Fund Raising Award was presented to the Study and Service Branch. Seen left to right are: Sarah Friedman and Miriam Gelbloom of Study and Service Branch; Nita Goldband, president of NCJW of Canada, Toronto Section, and Lily Goldstein.

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ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Eligible Voter:

a.) any person whose language or cultural heritage is **HEBREW** and who is a public school taxpayer within Metropolitan Toronto;

OR b.) any parent or guardian who has a child enrolled in the Toronto Board's **HEBREW** Heritage Language Program, and who lives within Metropolitan Toronto.

Eligible Candidate

a.) must qualify as a voter

b.) must not be an employee of the Toronto Board of Education (full-time or part-time).

For more information please call the Community Services Office at **591-8355.**

We encourage all eligible persons to participate in this election.

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Organizations and People

Emphasis on biblical Hebrew, classical Judaism

Centre for Jewish Studies a first in Hungary

By
DORIS STRUB EPSTEIN

BUDAPEST —

Prof. Geza Komorocsy is the director of the new Centre for Jewish Studies at E.L.T.E. University, the largest and most prestigious university in Hungary.

Never before has a major in Hebrew or Jewish studies been accepted in the Hungarian university system. And Komorocsy is not even Jewish.

"I was not exactly surprised when they approached me because I was the only university teacher teaching biblical Hebrew from the beginning of my career in 1962," said the bearded 51-year-old professor. "There was nobody else in Hungary."

Komorocsy, who specializes in Near Eastern studies, teaches ancient languages.

The Centre was established last year, following an agreement between the New York-based Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture and the Hungarian higher education authorities. The Foundation first approached the Academy in the 70s to begin a department of Judaica, but was refused. Just last year it agreed, and according to Komorocsy, "gave full and warm support to the project."

The Centre is mostly funded by the Memorial Foundation, which gets its money from German reparations. These payments cannot be given to the survivors themselves due to their death or disappearance.

The Foundation seeks to establish, especially in Eastern Europe, institutions not connected with synagogues, for Jewish studies and culture.

Komorocsy believes the primary goal of the academic program is to give the students a strong historical base. The emphasis will be on biblical Hebrew and classical Jewish education — "the historic and academic dimension of Jewish culture."

Although many disagree, the subject of the Holocaust will not be taught, because "it is contemporary history." Similarly, research into Hungarian Jewry and the issue of assimilation will not be in the program.

"If somebody wants to lecture on the Holocaust, we'll support it. I'm not against it — I'm for something else," he said.

Komorocsy, who translated the Dead Sea Scrolls into Hungarian, visited Israel for the first time last January. It was not permitted before by the Hungarian government.

This year, to see if there was a demand for Hebrew, the department offered beginner's Hebrew. Usually 10 students enroll in his biblical text class. But in the beginners class this year, 20 enrolled.

Komorocsy sees a rising interest and awareness of Jewishness among the students. "My only way to support it is by teaching the Jewish tradition on a scholarly level." When he finds people who are competent in other areas, he will expand.

Although Zionism is still a dirty word in Hungary, says Komorocsy, there are no government restrictions on the program, Komorocsy says.

"I'm not politically involved and never have been," Komorocsy stated firmly. "All my life I've been a scholar and done research. I don't follow orders from outside."

Jewish student affairs and law school studies keep Moyal on the go

By
PHIL FINE

This is one in a series of profiles of young Jewish leaders in the Metro Toronto area.

* * *

TORONTO —

Law school might seem enough for any student. But not for Matthew Moyal.

The 24-year-old Torontonian not only carries a full course load at Osgoode Hall but also sits on the board of B'nai B'rith Canada, heads the Canadian Jewish Law Students Association and acts as its liaison with the Jewish Students Federation at York University.

He's also a key organizer for both the Toronto branch of the Sephardic Educational Centre and the national CJLSA conference next year in Toronto.

Such involvement is nothing new for Moyal. From 1985 to 1986, he headed the UJA student campaign at York, and, from 87 to 88, did the same at Osgoode, increasing pledge contributions and telethon turnouts at both institutions.

Last spring, he organized a delegation of 20 Toronto students to go to the International Sephardic Youth Convention in Los Angeles. And, two winters ago, he attended gatherings of both the World Union of Jewish Students and World Sephardic Student Leadership in Jerusalem.

But Moyal's experience hasn't been limited to university organizations. For the past seven summers, he's worked successively as cabin counsellor, drama director and director of counsellors-in-training at Camp Kadima in Nova Scotia. Last year, as program director, he helped mount a camp photo exhibit on the Holocaust.

Needless to say, Moyal enjoys what he does. Indeed, he says, some of his most memorable experiences have come from working with his fellow Jews.

With the Kadima display, for example, there was the poignancy of 7 to 11-year-old children trying to come to terms with the Holocaust.

Matthew Moyal

"Watching these kids just learn and cry...was an experience in itself," he recalls.

Almost as memorable were the reactions of youngsters speaking on the phone to Refuseniks in the Soviet Union. Many, says Moyal, were shocked to discover the USSR doesn't view unimpeded emigration as a natural right.

Helping Jewish students from Atlantic and Western Canada better understand Jewish concerns has also been a source of gratification, he says.

Jewish concerns are key

Indeed, it's undoubtedly one reason why Moyal is helping organize CJLSA's convention in February at the Towne Inn. After all, he notes, one of the purposes of the gathering is to make Jewish law students from all over the country aware of such issues as war criminals, Israeli politics and the plight of Syrian and Soviet Jewry.

The latter concern will be taken up at the 3-day gathering by McGill University law professor Irwin Cotler. Other convention "stars" include labor lawyer Morris Manning and York Centre MP Robert Kaplan. Legal superstar Eddie Greenspan will participate in a panel discussion on maintaining a Jewish identity in a professional world.

That's something which should be of obvious interest to Moyal since he graduates in a year's time. Indeed, he's already decided to specialize in immigration and real estate.

The combination, he explains, is not accidental. Many Jews need help getting into Canada. But they also need homes. Besides, he notes, real estate is a booming field.

And one (at least in the Sephardi community) which will put his linguistic skills to good use. For in addition to English, Moyal speaks French, Hebrew and understands Ladino. That's no surprise considering he's from Israel and his father and mother are from Morocco. Born in Tel Aviv, Moyal came with his parents to Toronto when he was 3.

He was given a strong Jewish education: nine years at Associated (Neptune campus) and three years at CHAT. He was awarded a BA in sociology from York in 1986. A member of Minyan Sephard at the Patricia campus of Eitz Chaim, Moyal is Shomer Shabbat.

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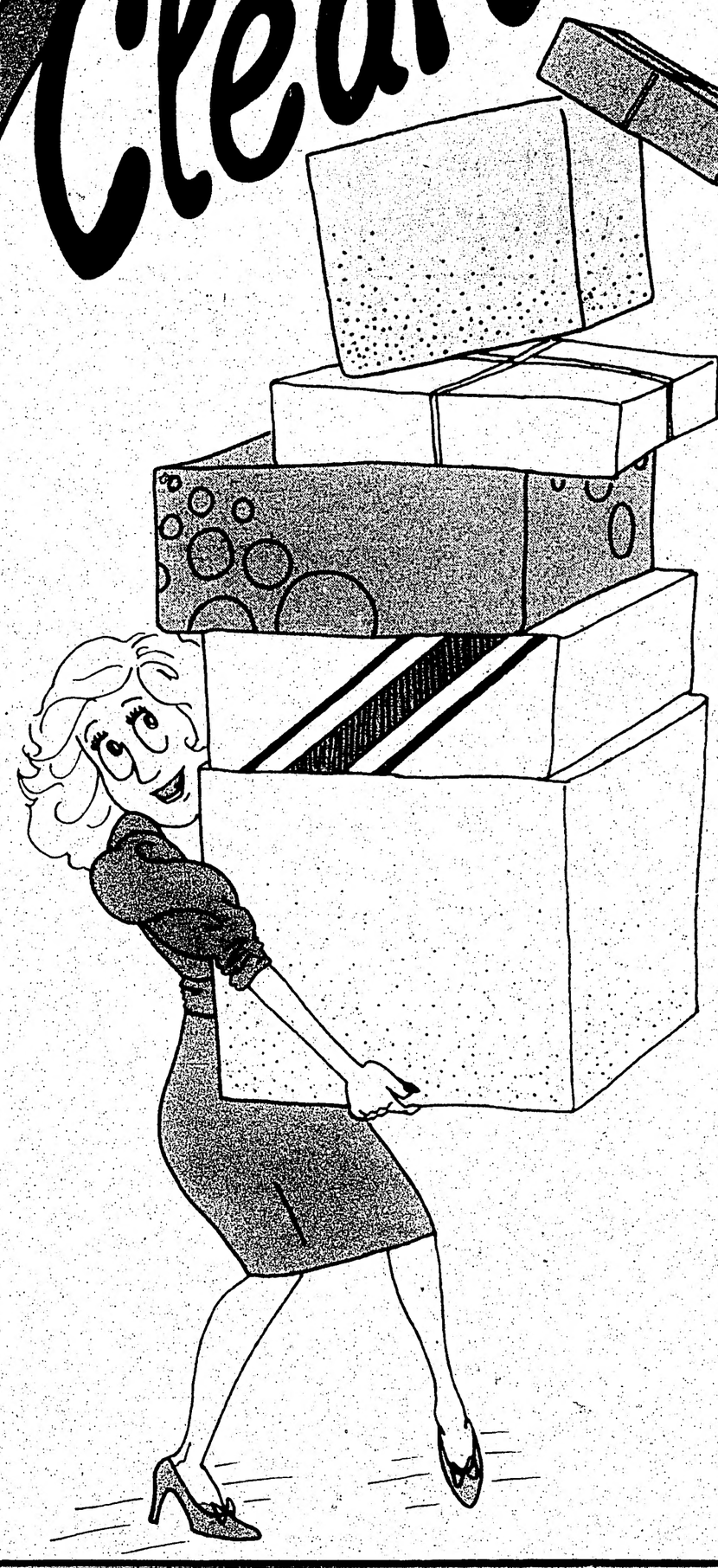

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Organizations and People

Number of refugee status claims cited as problem

Immigration system is in trouble, forum told

By
— CAROLYN BLACKMAN

TORONTO —

Canada's immigration system has broken down "because of the thousands of people a month who make refugee claims in Toronto alone," says J. Gerald Savard, a Toronto district administrator for the federal immigration department.

At present, said Savard, "all these people are using the refugee determination system to get into the country and we are not able to make quick consideration to the important claims."

Savard spoke at a recent public affairs forum sponsored by the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living. Other speakers were Toby Tabac, former assistant to the executive director of Jewish Immigrant Aid Service of Canada; Howard Adelman, director of the York University Centre for Refugee Studies; Susan Davies, a lawyer specializing in immigration, and Robert Adamson, a lawyer with the Kensington Bellwoods Legal Clinic for Refugees.

Savard said the federal government has proposed a new system whereby an independent immigration and refugee board will be set up.

"This board will consist of people experienced in refugee affairs who will be able to decide in a matter of days if a person is eligible for refugee status. Those that come from safe countries will be returned swiftly."

He said that now it could take months before a decision is made.

Savard said that "this will be a speedier system while at the same time preserving Canada's long-standing tradition of providing a safe haven for those who need it."

Tabac said the immigration system is being grossly abused by those seeking false refugee status.

"It's not acceptable for people to claim false rights," Tabac said. "They should not be fleeing from crime, illegal activities or trying to improve their financial status."

Davies agreed that each year tens of thousands of people abuse the system but said that "within these people are thousands of real refugees."

She stressed that "we must at all cost save the one life intermingled amongst thousands and thousands of refugees."

Davies said that those arriving in Canada with forged travel documents or no documents at all are often seen as people trying to abuse the system. "Some use forged documents to save their lives. We must keep individual cases in mind, not brand people for general purposes."

Adelman said that "no one disagrees that individuals are abusing the system. The government, however, is abusing it the most."

He said that under the present system the government turns away too many people that should be classed as refugees and people are kept waiting far too long for decisions on their claims.

"We should not be a country that is here when there is nowhere else to go. That means we discourage refugees. We want to be a country that truly accepts refugees."

Adamson echoed the opinion that the current refugee system has problems. "Until the new system comes into effect no one is having their claim reviewed. Meanwhile they are not allowed to work or become a productive member of society."

He said they should be allowed to work even if they are eventually not allowed as refugees. "A little work never hurt anyone."

Savard stressed that the government is doing everything it can to deal with refugees in a humane way."

Hungarian protests treatment

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —

Istvan Kovacs is protesting the treatment that immigrant professionals receive from government bureaucracies and professional societies in Canada.

Kovacs, 70, of Raglan Ave., was a surrogate court judge in Hungary, and is now a security guard here. He is not giving up on Canada despite his experience.

He has written a brief on injustices to the immigrant professional in Canada and has had enough response from two levels of government to think that something will be done to ease their lot.

Kovacs, who is not Jewish but has Jewish relatives in Hungary, made this statement in his brief: "Canada should not be a haven to war criminals and those who committed crimes against humanity.

"Those who deceived the Canadian authorities by not mentioning their criminal past, should be prevented from staying. If they did enter, they should be thrown out after their punishment here, even after 40 years."

He published a newspaper in favor of the revolutionary cause in the rebellion of 1956 in Hungary, and the next year was forced to flee when he was charged with crimes against the state. His pregnant wife and 9-month-old daughter could not escape with him. She is still in Hungary with their two daughters, now married. Kovacs was remarried here.

He knows the hardships of being an immigrant professional first hand. While he studied Latin, English, history and geography to qualify as a high school teacher, he also worked as a cleaner in the evening at Queen's Park.

After qualifying as a teacher, Kovacs taught in a few high schools and his last job was at Burford District High School in 1969. Though 75 students in Grade 13 did "excellently" in Latin on the exams, Kovacs says his Latin supervisor rated him wrongly, and as a result he lost his post there.

He badgered the ministry of education to have his standing restored but was unsuccessful. "I gave it up, in the long run it wasn't worth it."

When he was cut loose from Burford, he got a job as a sorter at the Post Office in Toronto where he worked for 16 years on shift work, while he wrote a book about the Hungarian Revolution, a task that took him 10 years.

While he works as a security guard, he still continues to study languages in the daytime.

Kovacs says he does not despise the people who do manual labor, but the immigrant professional belongs to neither the working class or the professional class in Canada.

"We are between earth and sky," he said.

Engineering courses in English

New Technion program offered

TORONTO —

For the first time, Israel's Technion is offering engineering courses in English for students from North America.

The courses — in aeronautical and agricultural engineering — run from the fall of 1989 to the spring of 1990 and are for students in their junior year who want to earn credits transferable to their home universities.

Graduate students, with their department's approval, may also enroll.

Students may study for one year — or, in the case of agricultural engineering — for one semester.

Engineering courses will be supplemented by classes in the humanities, social sciences and Hebrew. Students fluent in Hebrew will be able to take regular Technion offerings. There will also be trips to scenic and historic sites.

Students will be housed on campus in Technion dormitories. Each student will have a room in an apartment which will be shared with Israeli students. Campus facilities include a sports centre, restaurants, health clinic, bookstore, bank, post office and a supermarket.

Fees for a year's study including accommodation are $4,700 (U.S.) for agricultural engineering and $6,000 (U.S.) for aeronatuical engineering. A limited number of scholarships may be made available. March 15 is the registration deadline.

For applications and further information, call (416) 789-4545 or write: The Canadian Technion Society, 491 Lawrence Ave. W., Suite 500, Toronto M5M 1C7.

Freedom in Travelling lobbies for the disabled

By
JEFF ROSEN

TORONTO —

When it comes to the wonderful world of travel, everybody seems to be searching for something different these days. The travel industry has, for the most part, responded to this need by designing tours and packages for every taste and age group.

However, until just recently, one group — which crosses sex and age barriers — has been ignored: the disabled traveller.

Enter Deborah Cousins.

Cousins, who faces her own physical limitations, said the lack of communication between the travel industry and the disabled groups pushed her into starting Freedom in Travelling (FIT), a non-profit organization designed to serve as an advocacy centre for disabled travellers.

She said that while it received its first grant from the federal government in 1987, she began working on the concept back in 1985.

At the time, Cousins was working at a travel agency that specialized in senior citizens' travel, while taking part in the disabled movement on her own.

"I heard about the obstacles in travelling for the disabled," she said. "There was a lack of communication between the two groups."

As a result, Cousins decided to leave the travel industry and began lobbying the government for funding to start her organization.

While there were no such programs initially, she said the federal secretary of state eventually came through with funding to allow her to advocate on behalf of the disabled in Ontario. However, since the need was so great, she decided to expand her scope across Canada.

Judging from the 9,870 inquiries her office has received across Canada in its first year of operation, FIT may just have struck a nerve.

"I knew that this service was essential due to the fact that travelling is no longer a luxury," she said.

"When one looks at all the categories that come under the word disabled, one realizes that this is a very large market that wasn't being tapped. Tourism in Canada is quickly becoming the number one industry, and consumers want to be able to travel with dignity and equality."

Cousins stressed that FIT does not book or run any travel programs for the disabled. Instead, she said she addresses disabled groups about their rights and talks to representatives in the travel industry about such things as transportation, hotels and sightseeing.

"I want to improve conditions for service," she said, pointing out that many hotels still have few facilities for the disabled.

Cousins may slowly be succeeding though. She said the media is beginning to cover the issue and travel agents are beginning to realize that this market is not as "scary" as once thought.

However, she added that packages designed for the disabled are not yet that popular in Canada. She expressed optimism though that it will eventually catch on.

"As we get out there the industry will open and grow," she said.

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Jerry Borins' column will appear again in our January 5th issue in its new expanded format.

See you then, Abi Gezundt!!

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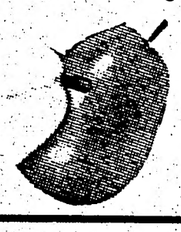

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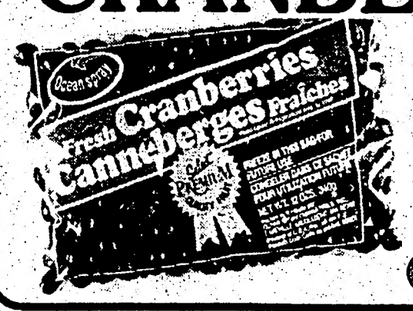

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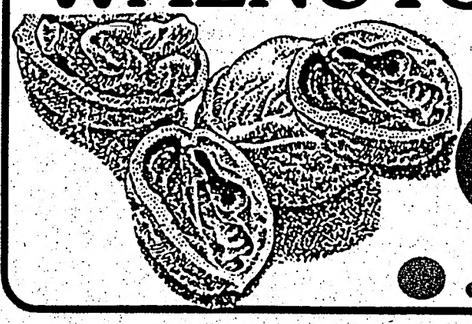

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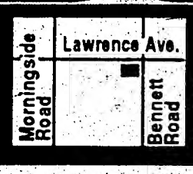

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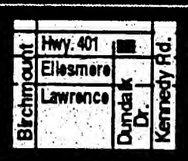

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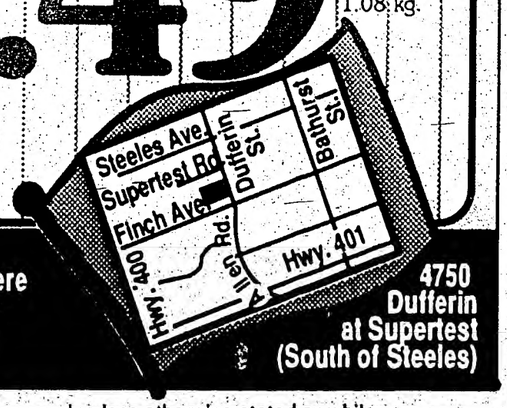

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Organizations and People

Who is a rabbi the issue

Winnipeg's mikvah controversy 10 years old

By
MYRON LOVE

WINNIPEG —

"For a change, we're ahead of Toronto," said Conservative Rabbi Shalom Rappaport, referring to the recent controversy in Toronto over use of a mikvah by Conservative and Reform rabbis to do conversions.

In Winnipeg, that has been an issue ever since the city's current mikvah was built 10 years ago, said the spiritual leader of the Rosh Pina Synagogue, one of this city's two largest congregations.

Rappaport, who does a majority of the conversions in the city (he performs anywhere from five to 20 a year) sees the question not so much as one of Who is a Jew but rather as Who is a rabbi.

"There is a new right-wing element among the Orthodox that has developed over the past 15-20 years who are questioning the legitimacy of all Conservative rabbis and some moderate Orthodox rabbis as well," he said.

In reply, Rabbi Avraham Altein, leader of Winnipeg's Lubavitch community, places the onus on Rappaport for refusing to accommodate himself to Lubavitch stipulations to use the mikvah for conversion according to strict halacha.

The bottom line however is that, in Winnipeg, the mikvah was built by and is owned and operated by the Chabad Lubavitch movement because no one else was interested.

"The Conservative rabbis are making a big issue of conversion but they are missing the main point of it all," said Altein.

"Most people don't understand that going to the mikvah on a regular basis is a primary element of Jewish married life. It's a necessity.

Not to use the mikvah after niddah is equivalent to eating on Yom Kippur and having chometz on Pesach, Altein said.

"A mikvah in a community is more important than a shul. Conversion is not a major priority. Our job is to encourage and teach Jews to do the mitzvah of mikvah. The mikvah is community. Conversions, Conservative converts."

When Rabbi Altein came to Winnipeg in 1972, he found the city's mikvah, a room in a North End steam bath, to be in poor shape. "It was in a steam bath in a seedy neighborhood," he recalled.

Altein reported he went to the Council of Rabbis for help in building a new mikvah. "They said nobody would be interested," he noted. The Vaad Ha'ir had a contract with the steam bath to 1980. The Community Council was willing to put up $2,000 on condition that a new mikvah be turned over to the community.

Altein placed an ad in the Jewish newspapers seeking donations. "Only our family doctors contributed," he said.

He finally called a meeting of the small number of families using the mikvah and, between them, they came up with $20,000. Phil Kravetsky, a businessman and Lubavitch supporter, put up the rest of the money.

Altein reports there has been a "tremendous increase" in the number of people, in particular younger people, using the mikvah since it was built.

For purposes of conversion however Rappaport has had to look elsewhere 1980. In spring and summer, he has used nearby lakes. On occasion, he has used the mikvah in Regina.

He reported the Rosh Pina has $7,000 sitting in a mikvah fund which was originally intended to help pay for construction of the Lubavitch mikvah. Since it became clear Rappaport wouldn't be able to use the mikvah for conversions, the money stayed at the Rosh Pina.

"Most people assumed I would be able to use it," he said. "I knew from the outset I would be prohibited."

Rappaport said there are tentative plans for a community-wide mikvah but there is nothing definite yet.

When should legal guardian be appointed?

Mental competency in elderly discussed

By
CAROLYN BLACKMAN

TORONTO —

When does someone have the right to declare that an elderly person has become mentally incompetent?

That is a very tricky question, says Judy Wahl, a lawyer and executive director of the Advocacy Centre for the Elderly.

Wahl, who spoke recently at the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living as part of its awareness project on abuse of the elderly said a person should not be given a legal guardian unless he or she is completely unable to make any decisions for him/herself.

She explained that a guardian is someone who is appointed to act on someone else's behalf when that person is unable to act on his own.

"The difficult part however, is deciding who really is mentally incompetent," Wahl said.

A recent report written by FRAM, a commission set up to determine who should assess competency was recently released by the Ontario government.

"We suggested proposed laws that would deal with such matters as who is incompetent and who is able to assess the situation properly," said Wahl who sat on the commission.

She noted that although the government has released the report it has not been introduced in the legislature.

Wahl said that a host of factors come into play when deciding competency. "Physical frailty is not a question because a physically frail person can be mentally competent. Although he is not physically able he has not lost his decision power."

She said that mental incompetency is different from mental illness because some mentally ill can make decisions.

Wahl added that a person can be competent in one area and not another. "Competency is thought of in terms of (the) financial and personal. Just because someone cannot make financial decisions does not mean they can't make personal decisions such as medical care or living arrangements."

She said "as you can see deciding if someone is mentally competent is not a cut and dry decision."

Wahl said that the new report proposes major changes in the law. "There is very little law on guardianship and the (proposals) tries to fill this gap."

She stressed that guardianship is not meant to be easy to get. "It should not be easy to take away people's rights to make decisions."

Wahl said that guardianship should always be considered as a last resort. "It is only meant as a final step if nothing else has worked."

She said that "we must be on guard that we are offering positive help. We cannot take away someone's decision-making power because we don't like the way they're living."

She gave as an example an elderly man who lived in a dirty house with 20 cats. "I couldn't live under those conditions but he's not harming anyone. He has the right to live the way he wants."

Wahl said that one of the proposals in the report is to set up an official office of the public guardian and trustee. "Its an expensive proposition but it is one that is necessary to ensure the rights of elderly citizens."

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living's awareness project on abuse of the elderly is a research and education program whose aim is to make the public aware of the nature and extent of elder abuse through such methods as public lectures and literature.

For information, call coordinator Sheila Zane at 225-2112.

Former Manitoba judge dies at 83 after illness

WINNIPEG —

Israel Nitikman, a former Manitoba Court of Queen's Bench judge, died recently at 83 after a long illness.

Born in rural Manitoba, Nitikman grew up in Winnipeg. A gold medalist in law school, he lectured in Criminal Law at the University of Manitoba Law School and practiced in the city until his appointment to the bench in 1962. Upon his retirement at 75, he was appointed a judge of the Federal Court where he served until 1983.

Archibald Dewar, former chief justice of the Court of Queen's Bench, both appeared before Nitikman on numerous occasions as a lawyer and served with him on the bench. He described Nitikman as a respected and knowledgeable jurist who embodied the best qualities of the legal profession.

Samuel Freedman, former chief justice of Manitoba, described Nitikman as a strong judge. "As a lawyer, he had a good practice," said Freedman.

"He came to the bench from his own office where he had had contact with quite a variety of legal matters. He was experienced in different areas. He touched the life of the law in many different points and places."

Justice Nitikman was also active in the Jewish community. He was a past president of the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue, B'nai B'rith, the Glendale Golf and Country Club and a governor of the YMHA to name a few of the organizations he was active in.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothea, his son and daughter-in-law Arthur and Naomi, his daughter, Carol Foster of Toronto and his two grandchildren, Mark and Paula Foster in Toronto.

Video alerts teenagers to missionary dangers

NEW YORK —

The Target Is You, a new half-hour videotape to help Jewish teenagers and their parents resist the proselytizing efforts of Jews-for-Jesus and other missionary groups, has just been released by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, central body of Reform Judaism.

The video is designed for use in religious school classes, and as part of special family education programs. It has been issued in advance of the Christmas season, when missionary activities are usually on the rise.

To help Jewish young people respond effectively to Christian missionary efforts, The Target Is You pays a behind-the-scenes visit to "Hebrew-Christian" congregations and offers a concise, clear look, with the help of live interviews and animation, at the key differences between Judaism and Christianity.

Rabbis Jerome Davidson of Great Neck, NY, Stephen Robbins of Beverly Hills, Calif., and Harold Schulweiss of Encino, Calif., offer advice on how best to combat missionary tactics.

The Target Is You may be ordered, in either Beta or VHS format, by sending a check or money order for $32.95 U.S. (including postage and handling) to the UAHC-TV and Film Institute, 838 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10021.

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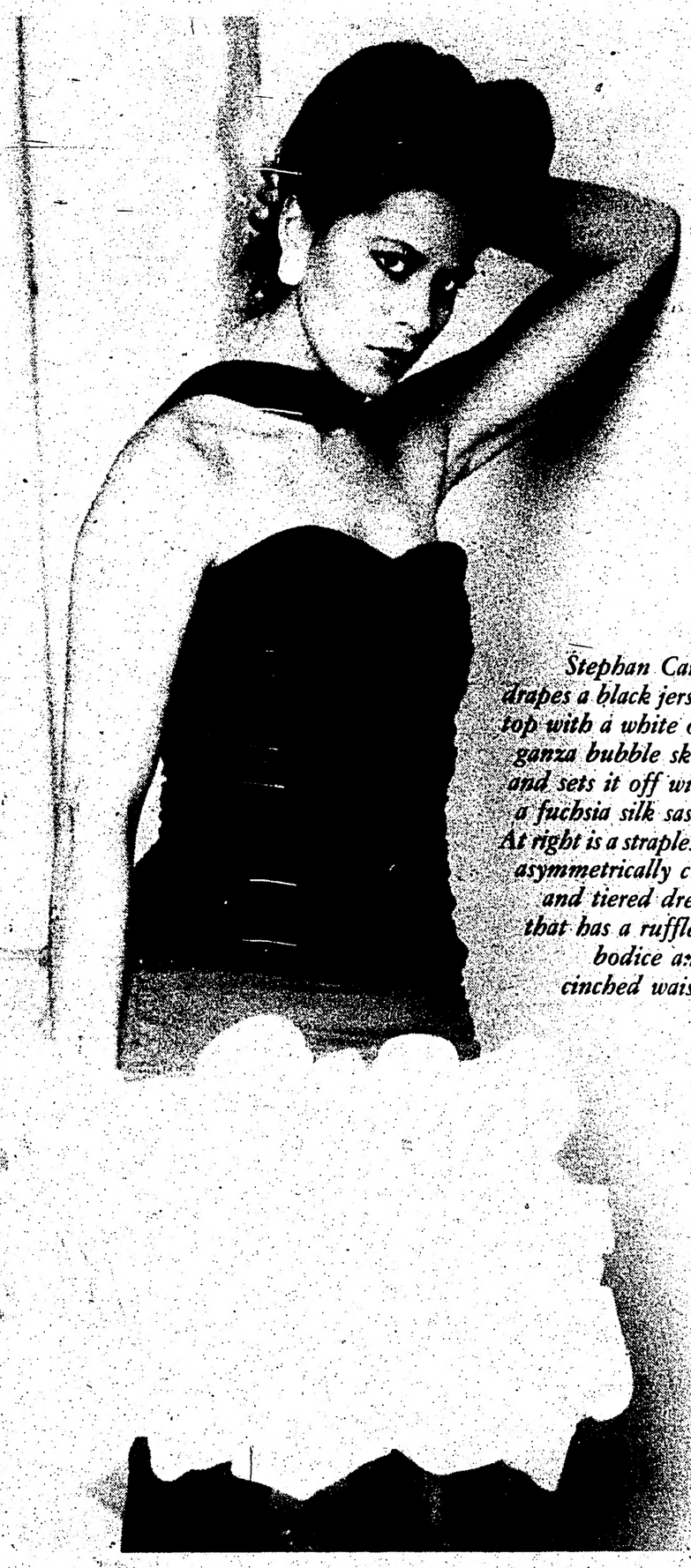

Stephan Caras drapes a black jersey top with a white organza bubble skirt and sets it off with a fuchsia silk sash. At right is a strapless, asymmetrically cut and tiered dress that has a ruffled bodice and cinched waist.

Put on the Ritz, Caras style

By
MARIE MOORE

Winter and Holiday seasons will be especially exciting periods for Stephan Caras fans as the designer moves into a distinctly strong mode.

Encouraged by the overwhelming success of Toronto's summit fashion show and an ensuing wave of rave reviews, Caras emerges for the Holidays in an unprecedented show of style.

"There's a real movement back to chiffon in floaty, soft lines for this Holiday group. Lots of wide-legged pants, for instance palazzo style, will be shown with beautiful sheer blouses and exquisite-cut jackets."

From the collection: medium-sized floral patterned organza, so subtle because the fabric is so sheer, will combine with the same print in stronger colorations on taffeta. Stunning royal blue, tangerine and purple prints are dazzling to the eye.

Multi-layered satin and organza ruffles in black will contrast madras plaid in a purple/black/teal combination on moire taffeta. Surprisingly sophisticated with all the trimmings!

Lame bustiers in brilliant gold, burnt red, and royal blue are antiquated with a black thread. Soutache and tassel trims highlight many pieces, including one favorite, a jester jacket (hemline has points). This particular cut is also available in the daywear collection.

Asymmetrical - tiered skirts show off every curve, while scalloped sweetheart necklines and halter bodices flatter the upper torso.

Summit-goers will recall two wonderful black taffeta capes, lined with shining fuchsia and teal moire.

"The lining was designed to be as exciting as the capes themselves and the effect was incredible!"

The Holiday line also includes cropped jackets that are fully beaded on the yoke and neck or trimmed with multi-ruffled black wool crepe.

Accents are varied. Choose from sequin butterfly motifs, gold tape braiding and "skinlock" (synthetic snakeskin) in royal, ivory, emerald and black.

Day Timers by Stefanos are also doing very well. The entire collection is offered in wool crepe or a dressier pure wool fabrication. Pieces are generally trimmed in satin.

The daywear includes jackets, dresses, skirts and freeform jumpsuits in black and cream. Small houndstooth prints, random-patterned geometrics, huge windowpanes and coin-dot (ivory backing with small black ovals, almost a Dalmatian print) which is used both as a basic or trim material, are essential elements.

Prices are competitive and fair. Daywear ensembles range from $400 to $700 for two pieces, depending on fabrication and style. Of course, the Holiday line is among the higher priced labels.

Stephan Caras high-style designs will help the numerous women who wear them capture the essence of sensuous Holiday dressing. This is just an added attraction from "the man who loves women," with love.

Paint the town red in evening wear by Saint-Louis

By SHARI SCHWARTZ

As the tall, lanky gentleman saunters through the door his presence fills the room with excitement and anticipation.

His name is Claude Saint-Louis and he is establishing himself as one of the better evening wear designers in Canada. Indeed the man's own elegant stature and enthusiasm for his work is reflected in his glamorous and timeless fashion creations.

Saint-Louis' design inspirations come from the stage where he spent many years as a performer and costume designer. His love for the theatre shines through when it comes to evening wear.

Born in Montreal, Saint-Louis spent his teenage years in New York before moving to Paris to study painting. There he realized his passion for fashion [illegible] clothing as art. In 1982, he moved to Los An[illegible] to become well-known American designer Bob [illegible]'s assistant.

Saint-Louis returned to Montreal to open his couture business in 1984. With the help of Toronto manufacturer Ben Leibman, the first Claude Saint-Louis ready-to-wear collection was launched two years later.

Saint-Louis now runs his own corporation in Toronto from his 720 King Street W. headquarters where all the clothing is manufactured. The company also recently signed with a top New York agent who will represent the Saint-Louis line in the United States.

For this season, the Saint-Louis evening collection celebrates the return to femininity.

"I believe in a glamorous look which is dramatic. The evening dress should go all the way to be noticeable and striking."

This asymmetrically cut jacket by Claude Saint-Louis tops a tight skirt.

Saint-Louis' choice of color is black. In crepe and taffeta, as a base for prints and gold, Saint-Louis uses black to emphasize his sophisticated look. He also uses more striking colors — fuchsia, jade, peacock and winter white.

Shapes wrap and tie into flirty bows at the hip or waist and follow the body with pleating. Prints are also popular in a curvy, ruffled taffeta and an elegant taupe-and-black combination of chemise and skirt.

Saint-Louis says his clothing stands out because of his style, workmanship and choice of fabric.

"What sets me apart is those little extra touches — the satin bindings and bows, the perfect button and the luxurious fabrics. The fabric tells me what to do; once I see it I get my ideas."

One floor-length outfit in the line which lends credence to Saint-Louis' design statement is an off-white dress of Alencon lace, which is fully embroidered with rhinestones with a deep-V back.

The most noticeable trend in evening wear is the return to the longer length, Saint-Louis says.

"Short dresses will always be around but not everyone can look or feel good in short so long is quickly becoming the style again."

In addition to launching Ma Griffe, his premier day dress collection, Saint-Louis is busy with numerous other projects. He is the official designer for the Miss Canada competition and also designed the clothing for the recent Oktoberfest fashion show in Kitchener.

The Claude Saint-Louis collection is available in better boutiques and specialty chains such as Liptons, Creeds and Linda Cherry.

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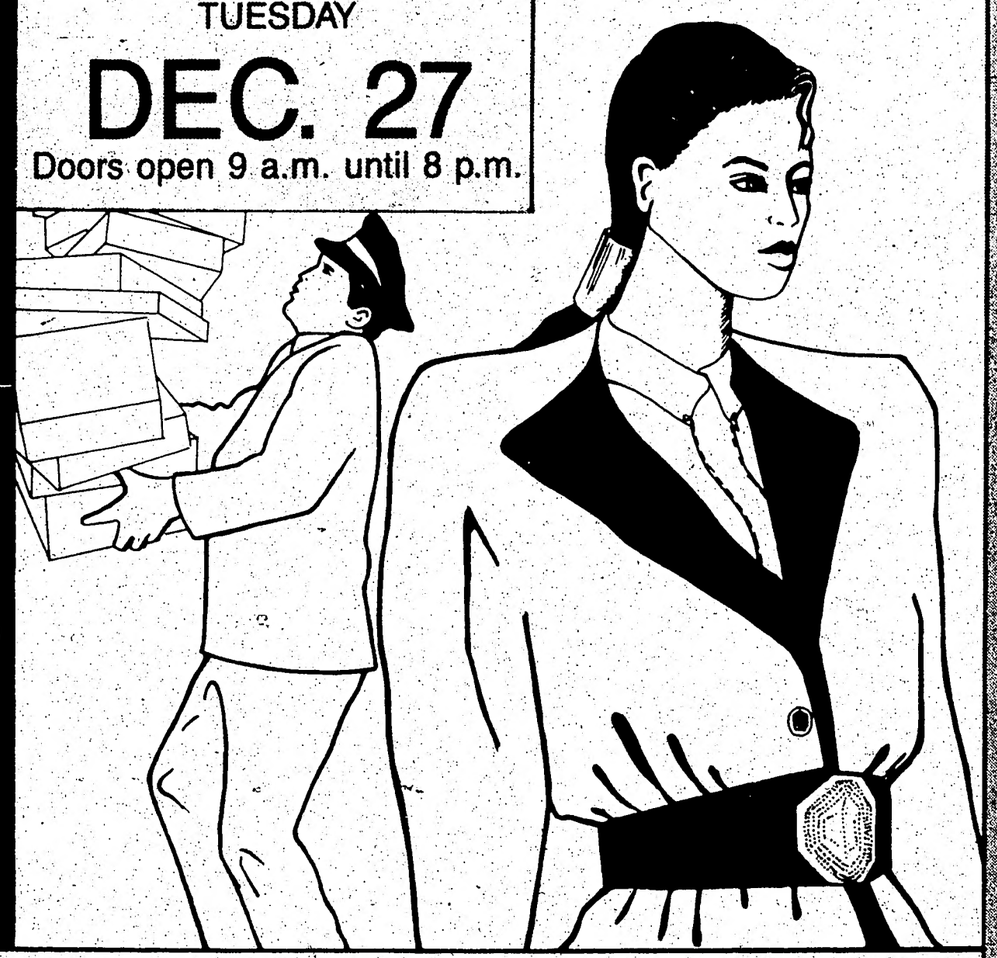

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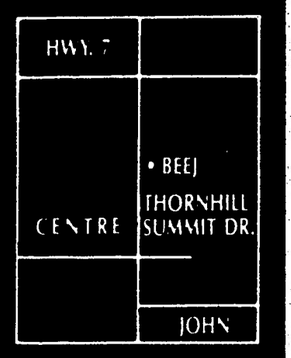

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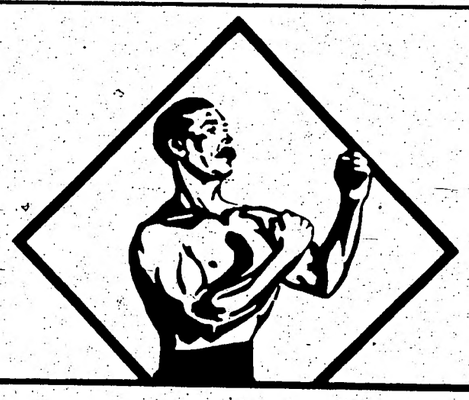

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Artistic expression therapeutic for Que. seniors

By
JANICE ARNOLD

MONTREAL — The tangled mass of lines drawn spontaneously by an elderly man suffering from Alzheimer's disease bear an uncanny resemblance to what scientists say the brains of victims of this affliction look like with their snarled nerve endings.

While he was still lucid enough, Otto Neumann once remarked that his artwork depicted his "brain activity."

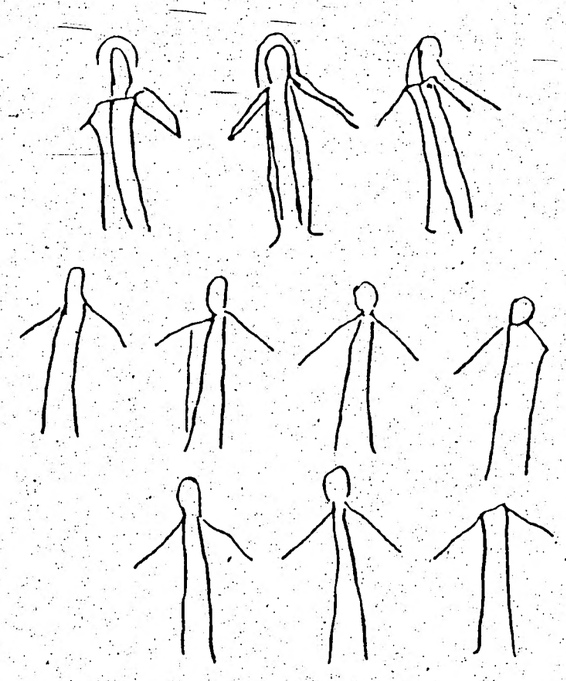
Neumann's creations were among those exhibited at the recent first annual art exhibit of Activity Plus of the Golden Age Association. Activity Plus is a day program for persons who have declined physically and/or mentally, but are not institutionalized. Many have Alzheimer's or other forms of senility, or damage to the brain.

Participants range in age from the late 50s to the 90s, with the average about 75. Some 15-17 participants are at Activity Plus weekdays.

These people's artistic expression provides an intriguing clue into how they see themselves and the world around them as their abilities diminish.

The exhibit, held at the Activity Plus centre in Cote St. Luc, was entitled Changing Perceptions: Artwork by Elders in a Supervised Setting. Represented was work done over the period from October, 1986 to June of this year, about 150 pieces in all.

A centrepiece of the exhibit were 10 works by Neumann, a former small businessman and singer who trained in his native Austria, which graphically illustrated his deterioration over that short period. Arranged chronologically, they tell the sad story of how Neumann took up drawing and painting with a passion, and then abandoned them as his disease worsened.



Gentlemen Talking, a drawing by Alice Rifkin, adorned the invitation to the first art exhibit of Activity Plus of Montreal's Golden Age Association.

When he first came to Activity Plus, he took great pride in his work, said Mona Rutenberg, co-director of Activity Plus with Margaret LeBrun. He was completely absorbed in it and was insatiable in his appetite for more paper and crayons or markers, producing intricate swirls and slashes of color.

Midway through this retrospective is a small wooden board on which Neumann had glued black beans. The first couple of lines are affixed in neat horizontal rows; from there, they gradually trail off into a jumble — as if his mind had wandered from the task at hand.

Soon after doing that piece, Neumann became despondent and refused to create anymore. His condition made it impossible for him to continue coming to Activity Plus and he was placed in a home. "We can only wonder if he felt safer in not expressing himself, so as to not reveal his inner changes," Rutenberg commented.

The drawing on the invitation to the exhibit also shows how another woman's perception changed in just the few minutes it took her to make it. Alice Rifkin's sketch, titled simply Gentlemen Talking, is of 10 child-like stick men, each drawn progressively more simple until the final one is a headless figure.

The goal is to keep participants as active and alert as possible, and to maintain them in the community, either in their own homes with relatives or in foster homes.

Rutenberg, an art therapist, pointed out that interesting people who are disoriented or depressed in art is not easy, and has required a lot of encouragement and patience. The approach is "gentle and supportive," and above all, non-judgmental.

A stimulus must often be used, such as the reading of a poem or story.

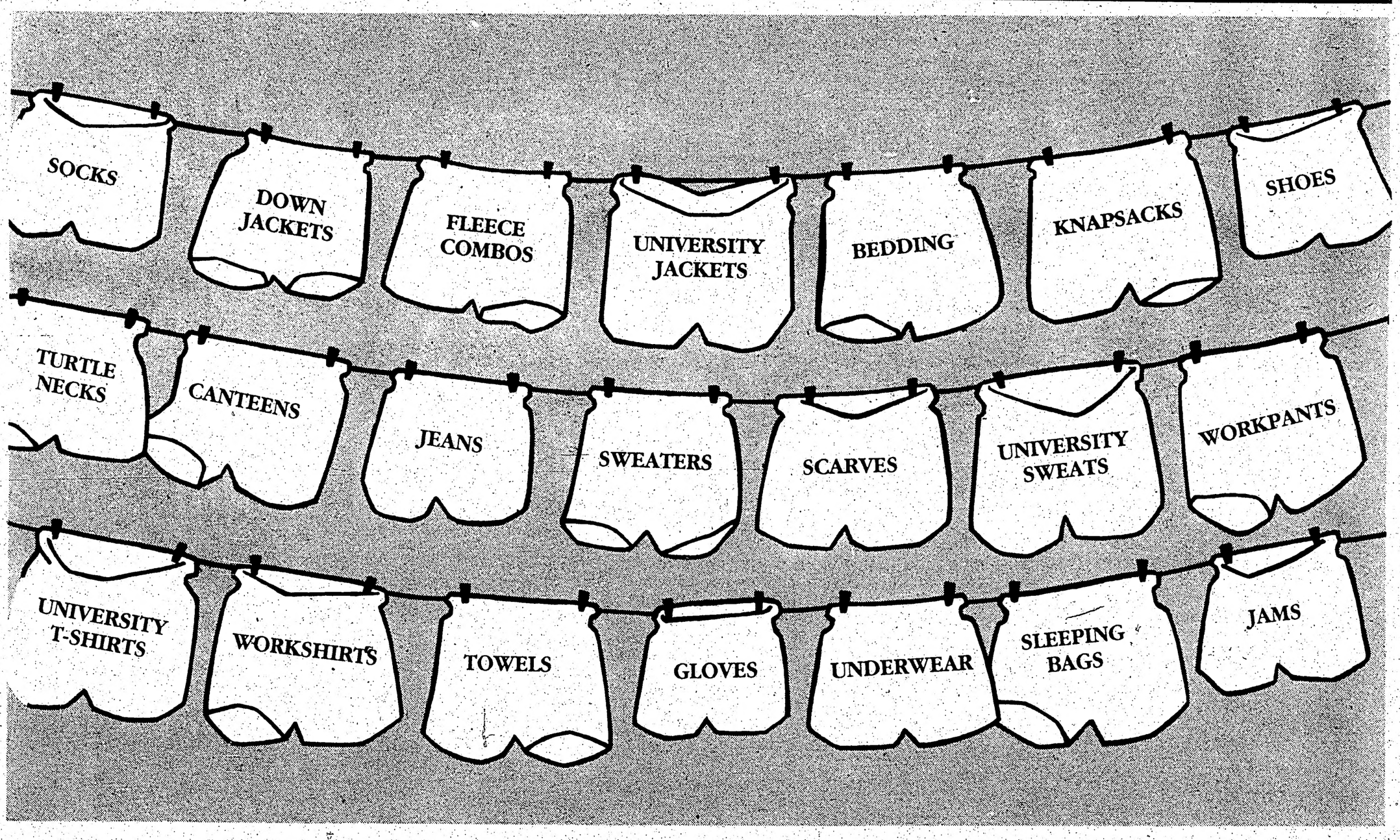
One series of drawings on display were inspired by Shel Silverstein's story The Giving Tree. It triggered memories among the group of favorite trees from childhoods spent many years ago, in some cases, in a far-off country.

Others were pure fantasy, like the plasticine "Roos" (kangaroos) by Ida Shafer, who fashioned them from what she had seen on television.

A variety of media were on view: painting, drawing, plasticine, clay, papier mache, string pictures and colored dough, as well as some crafts involving sewing and rug-hooking. Several works were collaborative efforts, such as the Chanukah menorah, composed of individual clay figurines holding candles. All were accompanied by short commentaries by the artists.

Though supervision is given, participants are encouraged to make their own choices in their art work, said LeBrun.

Boxing Day Specials



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Arts

Showbiz Mishmash

The many faces of folknik idol Bob Dylan unmasked

By
FRANK RASKY

Away away
Be gone all you demons
An' just let me be me
Human me
Ruthless me
Wild me
Gentle me
All kinds of me.
— Bob Dylan's Biograph Song

He should also have mentioned "multi-faced me."

For Plastic Man, as **Bob Dylan** is nicknamed in a new biography after a comic book character, is a man of many cunning guises.

Moreover, **Bobby Zimmerman**, to use his original Jewish name, was a most unlikely character to have become the folknik rebel idol of the 1960s.

The biography is titled simply *Dylan* (McGraw-Hill Ryerson; 639 pages; $29.50). It's by **Bob Spitz**, an exceptionally gifted Jewish pop music critic for Rolling Stone. He is probably best known as the author of *Barefoot In Babylon*, his candid account of the infamous Woodstock Rock Festival that rang the death knell on hippiedom at the close of the 1960s.

Spitz begins his devastatingly honest, no-holds-barred biography with the Hebrew-accented cry: "Bobe Dee-lon! Bobe Dee-lon!"

That chant was taken up by the thousands of Israeli fans, in their bleached Jordache jeans and Gali sneakers, gathered in Tel Aviv's Hayarkon Park on a September night last year.

They had to come to worship, not the flesh-and-blood, 46-year-old guitarist, poet, composer and singer. Rather, it was the gathering of a clan come to pay tribute to their own legendary folk hero.

As Spitz points out in his book, it didn't matter that Dylan had rudely snubbed Israel's foreign minister **Shimon Peres**, "up to his yarmulke in war plans, who had put aside an hour to meet with him."

Epitomized American antihero

His devotees forgave him for that.

"After all, Bob Dylan *was* the original rebel," notes Spitz. "He'd practically created the counter-culture, epitomizing the American antihero who struggled to break free from almost every value he'd been bred to accept . . . The fact that legendary Bob had come to Israel to perform in two concerts was enough to placate their fierce national pride."

As one local newspaper gushed with anticipation, "The people of Israel, your countrymen, welcome you!" And so his idolaters kept repeating their worshipful chant: "Bobe Dee-lon! Bobe Dee-lon!"

* * *

What makes Spitz's exhaustively researched biography so remarkable is that he has stripped away all the mythology — the half-truths, fabrications and barefaced lies — that Dylan has spun out over the years to create an exotic mystique.

The truth is that he's a chameleon, who has needlessly posed in many roles, for he was a truly extraordinary innovator, despite his many limitations.

He certainly didn't look like a singing star who would appeal to the teenybopper bobbysox set. As Spitz remarks, he had no prettyboy looks, no bedroom eyes, no forehead destined for a spitcurl apropos of an Italian racecar driver. On the contrary, he was a skinny, squirrel-cheeked twerp, with a hangdog look.

Neither did he have a passable singing voice. He whined his free verse lyrics in a nasal, adenoidal, tonsilly voice that has been likened to a hillbilly gasping with emphysema or the sound of a bloodhound baying while his leg is tangled in barbed wire.

Neither did he have the romantic Byronic past of a rebellious poet that he so often claimed in interviews. There were no Sioux Indians on either side of his family; no uncles who dealt blackjack in Las Vegas; nor, for that matter, was he the illegitimate son of carnival show people operating out of Cheyenne, Wyoming.

The fact was that he borrowed his WASPy surname from the Welsh poet, Dylan Thomas.

His great-grandfather was Bechezer Zimmerman, a Talmud scholar-cum-blacksmith, who escaped from the pogroms in Lithuania to Halifax and then wandered to northern Minnesota to build cast-iron stoves.

He was the son of middle-class Jewish parents in Duluth, Minn. — Abe, who worked as a manager in the stock department of Standard Oil, and Beatty, a salesclerk in a women's haberdashery — both ardent Zionists.

And far from being a rebellious youth who frequently ran away from an oppressive home, young Bobby Zimmerman was a spoiled, sullen, pouty brat, who pestered his parents until they bought him those two teenagers' status symbols — a Ford convertible and a Harley-Davidson motorcycle with all the trimmings.

* * *

So how come that this rather nebbish dork with a midwestern twang and an overbearing ego was transformed into the **James Dean** of folkniks? Evidently Dylan was a lonely introvert beneath his abrasive facade and he regarded pop music as a means of gaining attention.

Though he was always a 2nd-rate guitar player, he was a 1st-class mimic, had a memory like a sponge, and assiduously began imitating the mannerisms of all the great trailblazers of pop music, from **Woody Guthrie** to **Chuck Berry**. Spitz writes entertainingly how Dylan developed his own style while performing in the beatnik coffeehouses on the campus at the University of Minnesota and later in Manhattan's Greenwich Village.

Songs carried meaning

For aspiring professional folkies, writes Spitz, the best apprenticeship was served at all-night parties, "where guitars were passed from hand to hand, like the Torah."

By the mid-1960s, Dylan had emerged as a superstar — partly because he had become an expert at manipulating the press with his cock-and-bull stories and partly because many of the 200 songs he wrote were anthems that spoke meaningfully to young people.

The best of them were dirges protesting against social issues: the military mentality (*A Hard Rain's A-Gonna Fall*); manipulators of civil rights advocates (*Only A Pawn In The Game*); evils of the drug culture (*Mr. Tambourine Man*); right-wingers (*Talkin' John Birch Paranoid Blues*); the generation gap (*Blowin' In The Wind* and *The Times They Are A-Changin'*); and the hypocrisy of religious extremists (*With God On Our Side*).

By the 1980s, he had flirted with political causes, failed at acting the role of an aging rock-'n'-roll star who falls in love with a starlet in the flop movie *Hearts Of Fire*, had a fling at converting to born-again Christianity, and reverted to Orthodox Judaism.

Spitz concludes his in-depth portrait on an upbeat note.

"It would be easy to write off Bob Dylan as a has-been," he writes. "Nearing 50 and distanced by the obstacles of age and experience, it becomes difficult for an entertainer to remain influential to a predominantly youth-oriented culture.

"Bob Dylan no longer speaks for or to teenagers, nor does his music transfigure the current pop form. The language of his lyrics is dated by its wisdom. His abstractions belie the instant gratification of a fast-food — MTV — USA Today type lifestyle. His sex appeal is a memory of middle-aged women. His concerts, reflect the past instead of prefiguring the future. Bob Dylan is history! exclaimed a scalper hawking **Prince** tickets outside a recent gig Bob played with **Tom Petty**.

"Still, Dylan's songs present an individual point of view that has defined the look and language of popular culture. He created a musical standard against which everything that evolves must be measured. And a body of music that lifts our hearts, reminding us of all the passion and desire and frustration and sacrifice and pity and pride which mold our lives."

* * *

A tip of my hat this week goes to the following Jewish creators in the arts.

Congratulations to **Cayle Chernin**, the 40-year-old Toronto video producer, whose 30-minute documentary on the problem of aging, *Do They Ever Think Of Me?*, will be shown at 9.30 p.m., Dec. 22, on Metro Cable 10.

Cheryl Landy, formerly from Regina, where she was daughter of the late **Rabbi David Landy**, is stage manager of *Under The Skin*, a new play about the abduction of a 12-year-old child, opening Jan. 13 at Theatre Passe Muraille (363-8988). The co-stars include **Tanja Jacobs** and **Maggie Huculak**.

Be sure to catch *A Night At The Grand*, a witty musical revue featuring original songs, co-starring that splendid Jewish singing hoofer from *Cats*, **David Walden**, and Canadian Opera Company comic character actress-singer **Arlene Meadows**. It's running until Dec. 24 at the New York Dinner Theatre, 1150 Queen St. W. (533-0046).

* * *

My exit lines this week are taken from a new book, *Dealing With Memory Changes As You Grow Older* (Seal Books; 160 pages; $9.95). It's by two Vancouverites who deal with Jewish seniors, **Gloria Levi** and **Kathleen Gose**.

I picked up some valuable tips to reinforce my sometimes faltering memory. But I particularly liked their last chapter in which they asked seniors to comment on wisdom, and elicited these gems:

"Wisdom is giving up the lust to be right."

"Give me grace to see good things in unexpected places, and talents in unexpected people. And give me, Lord, the grace to tell them so."

Bob Dylan

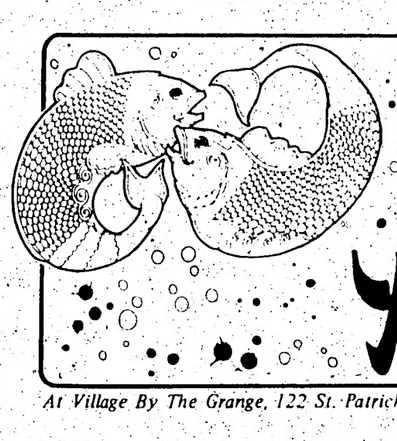
Cayle Chernin

Bob Spitz

Cheryl Landy

David Walden

Arlene Meadows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Eliot Letters evokes mixed feelings

books

By
BERNARD BASKIN

The Letters of T. S. Eliot, Volume 1 — 1898-1922. Edited by Valerie Eliot. Penguin, $35.

Born in St. Louis in 1888, Thomas Stearns Eliot attended Harvard where he was one of Bertrand Russell's most brilliant students. Graduate study at Oxford was boring, but England was exciting. After meeting Ezra Pound he gave up all thought of becoming a professor of philosophy and opted for the life of a poet.

The Waste Land, published in 1922, made him famous. Shocking and innovative in style, it captured the mood of disillusionment of the early post-war period. The critic Cyril Connolly wrote of being "infatuated with his erudition, his sophistication, yet sapped and ruined by the contagion of his despair."

Eliot didn't want his letters published. He agreed only after prolonged nagging by his wife, but with the proviso that she would select the letters and serve as editor. He was eager to conceal the truth about the disaster of his first marriage which the letters would reveal.

Vivien's high-spirited and volatile temperament was at odds with his own reclusive and sensitive nature. She fell victim to an orgy of ailments. Destructive and self-destructive, she was eventually confined to a mental institution. Eliot was overcome by guilt and remorse, unsure of his share in her deterioration.

The poet was astonishingly prolific and this first volume of his correspondence, covering the period from his childhood to 1922, includes letters to his mother and brother, friends, publishers and a full range of literary personalities. Of special interest are his letters to James Joyce, Ezra Pound, Virginia Woolf, Conrad Aiken and Bertrand Russell.

Not yet the aloof snob who identified himself as a royalist in politics, a classicist in literature and an Anglican in religion, Eliot in these letters is intelligent and perceptive, often witty and amusing. Assembled from all over the world the letters bring to life a man and poet often regarded as remote and "invisible."

Some years before 1922, Eliot had written his poems with the anti-semitic references: *Gerontion, Cooking Egg, Sweeney among the Nightingales* and *Burbank with a Baedeker: Bleistein with a Cigar.*

The poet's casual anti-semitism caused hardly a ripple among his friends. Among his patrons was the well known Jewish couple Sydney and Violet Schiff who furthered his career.

A. M. Klein wrote: "It is, indeed, an interesting speculation to consider what might have developed out of Eliot's occasional flirtations with fascism had not the 1939 declaration of war taught him discretion."

This volume which appears on the centenary of the poet's birth has been hailed by his admirers as a literary event. Others, more dubious about Eliot as poet and person, will restrain their enthusiasm.

Chinese play adaptation falls short in content

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —

A Chinese play with good intentions, Jesus, Confucius and John Lennon, misfires in the Acting Company's production at Factory Theatre, until Dec. 31.

The plot is straight forward: Harassed by a lack of space in heaven, and facing a John Lennon-led revolt in purgatory of people tired of waiting for their admittance to heaven, God sends Jesus, Confucius, and Lennon to investigate earth.

The play is by Sha Yexin, director of the Shanghai People's Theatre. Han Sheng, a colleague of the playwright, did the beautiful set design. It was translated, adapted and directed by Alec Stockwell, the Acting Company's artistic director.

There are moments of real comedy in the play but it lacks a solid core. We don't get any insights about the human condition from the three wise men. Director Stockwell, in an interview in The Toronto Star, said that the longer he worked on the play, the more he had the feeling he was directing the Three Stooges. Obviously he decided to go for physical, not cerebral, humor.

Scene stealer

The opening of the second act is a knockout, with actors costumed as the hardware of Western society, a computer, a touch tone telephone, a TV, a microwave oven, etc.

This is the introduction of the three wise men to the materialistic West. They meet House, the richest man in the world, played by Brian Smegal. He steals the scene with an inspired performance.

It is reminiscent of his sterling work in the Equity Showcase production of Marat/Sade a few years ago. Without doubt Smegal is headed for the top rung in Canadian theatre.

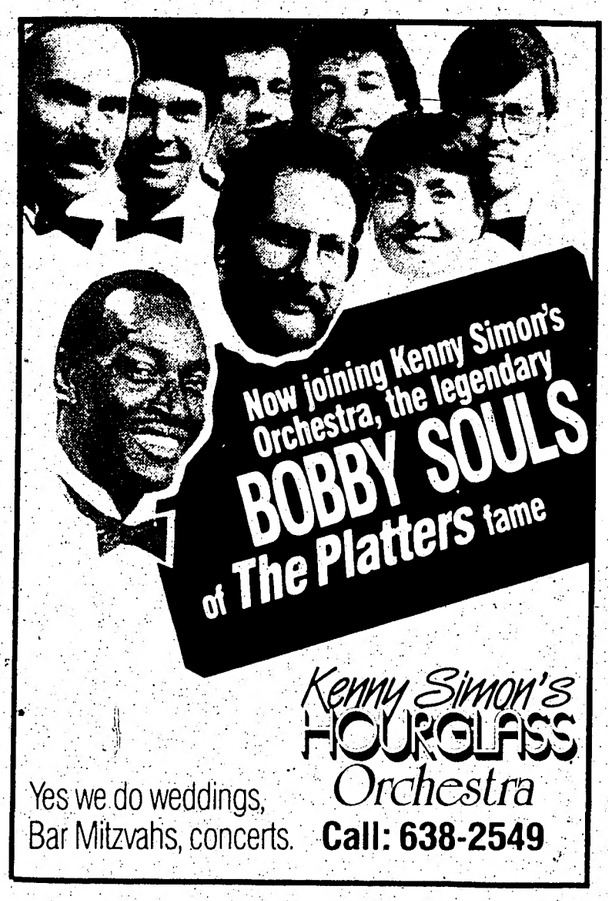
The second funniest bit is contributed by Jim Warren as the manager of a hotel. It is symptomatic of the play's troubles that the three stars, Tom McCamus as Jesus, Richard Partington as Confucius and Patrick Brymer as John Lennon, do not have the best lines.

The three also travel to the Land of the Purple People, where Yexin takes some shots at authoritarian regimes.

The play gets off on the wrong foot with a tasteless, "brainless" Einstein. It improves when God arrives in shorts from a tennis match and tosses off lines like "Let's hit the shower," and "Keep in Touch."

It would be nice to write that this Chinese-Canadian effort is a socko hit. But, instead, it gets high-marks for novelty, costuming, music, props and set, but low marks for content, with a few exceptions.

The Factory Theatre is located at 125 Adelaide St. W., at Bathurst St. (864-9971).



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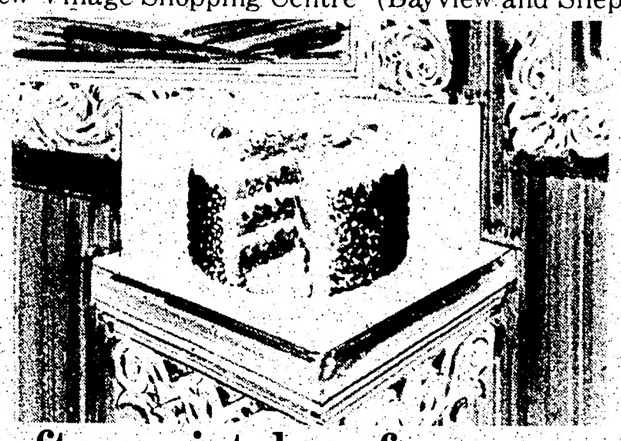

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Arts

Original described as "country store of the ghetto"

Cafe Crown is a charming 40s atmospheric comedy

GERRY MORRIS, The CJN's New York theatre critic, brings us another of his Broadway reviews. He is a member of the Outer Critics Circle, Drama Desk and American Theatre Critics Association.

* * *

NEW YORK —

Back in the 1930s there was a thriving Yiddish Theatre area along Second Ave. on the Lower East Side.

Sardi's of that theatre area was the Cafe Royale on Second Ave. and 12th St., opposite the Yiddish Art Theatre. There, the intellectuals of the local Jewish world, and in particular poets, actors, dramatists and critics came to share their dreams and memories, giving more than a modest exhibition of their colorful egos.

Public Theatre producer Joseph Papp sums up his affection for that era: "Cafe Royale was a country store of the ghetto and a crossroads of time and place. Great actors like Paul Muni had already been lured away to the movies and the flourishing Yiddish theatre that I knew, growing up in New York in the 30s, was dying."

Toronto's version of that nostalgic meeting place would have been The Homestead Restaurant at Spadina and College.

Cafe Crown is a 1940s revival play written by H. S. Kraft, who obviously knew and loved that era. It is a charming atmospheric comedy which has its moments of warmth, its sprinkling of laughs and its flashy characters.

The czar of *Cafe Crown* is a middle-aged bus boy, Hymie, who has somehow —very likely by his genius for scrounging tips — become a man of affluence. In between orders of chopped herring and seltzer he manages to angel a good many plays.

It is to Hymie that David Cole, a great actor of the old school, turns in his attempt to mount a modern Yiddish production of *King Lear*, as the latest in his farewells to the theatre. But Hymie has been burned by the bard and has developed a Shakespearean phobia ever since he bankrolled a phenomenally unsuccessful production of Richard-One-Two-Three.

Although Cole does not succeed exactly as he planned, he does manage to round up enough money for one final production, and he casts it from among the permanent residents of the cafe.

The cafe is a place where habitues — many of them card players — are more happily at home than in their own living rooms, and where strangers are gazed at not merely with amazement but almost with indignation. No one has any secrets and no one stands on ceremony. They are not exactly one big happy family, but are clannish, cultivated and loyal to Second Ave.

Among the 20 speaking parts, there is the critic of the Yiddish press at a corner of table, writing a review of a play not yet opened. And there is Toplitz the playwright and impromptu poet who is rewriting Somerset Maugham's *Rain* with a setting in the Catskills.

Kraft has portrayed his characters without condescension, and with a humorous appreciation of the ghetto folklore. *Cafe Crown* has no affectations; in essence, it is an unsophisticated, modest little comedy, but it has the virtue of introducing us to some endearing characters and of looking upon them with rather proud admiration for our cultural heritage.

Eli Wallach plays David Cole, the old and irascible star — producer — womanizer. He captures the self-importance and fur-collared grand manner of the man, as he stalks the proscenium stage with his silver-headed cane. His is a marvellously detailed piece of work.

Bob Dishy plays Hymie with humor and a sense of character, never spilling over into burlesque.

The fine actress Anne Jackson has a disappointingly small role as Cole's actress wife.

A number of supporting parts are especially well played: Fyvash Finkel brings a sharp-witted interpretation to the role of the sarcastic Jewish waiter; Harry Goz is marvellous as Toplitz, the unproduced playwright trying to sell his 153rd play; Marilyn Cooper is most effective as the critic's actress wife, Ida, who has to be reminded, "Ida, in the scene where you are dead, don't act."

The production under the direction of Martin Charnin has its share of ragged edges, but they're not distracting. Santo Loquasto has designed a setting that is presumably a replica of the lamented Cafe Royale, a vivid and historical rendezvous we happen never to have visited. Alas!

For tickets call Charge Tix 212-598-7150; The Public Theatre, 425 Lafayette St., New York City.

Danny DeVito deserves better

Twins proves endlessly silly

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

TORONTO —

Mushy minds may well appreciate Ivan Reitman's latest piece de resistance — *Twins*, now playing at Cineplex Odeon theatres.

Reitman, a Canadian who's fabricated fluff like *Ghostbusters* and *Meatballs*, brings to bear his dubious talents in a comedy that is nothing more than a vehicle for Danny DeVito and Arnold Schwarzenegger.

As the title suggests, it's about twins, separated at birth, who find each other and live happily ever after.

Julius (Schwarzenegger), a muscle-bound, gentle, sentimental clod who's been raised on a South Pacific tropical isle, goes to America to search for his long-lost brother. Within no time at all, he locates him.

Vincent (DeVito), his sibling, is a shiftless good-for-nothing, a petty thief who knocks up other men's wives.

The film revolves around Julius' efforts to befriend Vincent, their cross-country journey to find their mother and their respective relationships with two pinheaded women (Kelly Preston and Chloe Webb).

For laughs, Reitman throws in a subplot concerning Vincent's escapade in stealing a car with a multi-million dollar industrial secret in its trunk.

Schwarzenegger and DeVito are a study in sharp contrasts, just as Reitman intended it.

Schwarzenegger, the former Mr. Universe, is agreeable and affable, but he's no actor. Throughout much of the film, he wears Bermuda shorts and a floppy sports jacket. His German-accented diction, though somewhat quaint, is finally tiresome. How he made the transition from world-renowned bodybuilder to world-renowned actor defies reason.

DeVito, short, swarthy and ugly, has what it takes. He's a genuinely funny fellow. But in *Twins*, which is endlessly silly and rarely amusing, he's reduced to going through the motions.

DeVito deserves better than the likes of Reitman, the shlockmeister of Hollywood.

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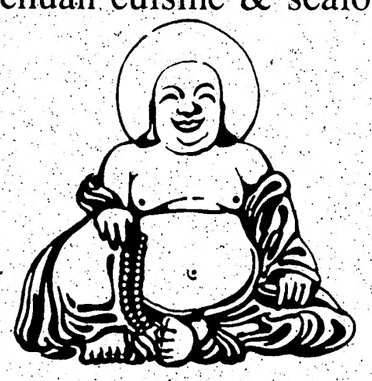

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Talk Radio memorializes Alan Berg

By
SHELDON KIRSHNER

Eric Bogosian stars in Talk Radio, a film directed by Oliver Stone.

TORONTO —

Oliver Stone has always been comfortable with big themes. In a fruitful career which encompasses films like *Wall Street*, *Salvador* and *Platoon*, Stone has never shrunk from tackling relevant, meaningful topics.

Alan Berg, the martyred American talk show radio host who was assassinated by neo-Nazi thugs in 1984, does not, at first glance, fit into Stone's range of priorities.

Berg, a Jew, was, to put it bluntly, a loudmouth, the master of the brusque putdown. For all the notoriety he gained *after* his cold-blooded murder in Denver, he was just another glib broadcaster trying to reach the top.

Why, then, has Stone chosen to memorialize Berg in his latest film, *Talk Radio*, which opened this week at Cineplex Odeon theatres?

I imagine that Stone was attracted to Berg because he represented and personified the current phenomenon of shock broadcasting, which has been popularized by, among other people, Howard Stern and Morton Downey Jr.

Shock broadcasting, for all its associations with the meanest forms of yellow journalism, is instructive because it's a mirror into the dark, beating heart of America, a nation flowing over with venemous hatreds.

In *Talk Radio*, which is partly based on Stephen Sinclair's book, *Talked to Death: The Life and Mu er of Alan Berg*, the character of Berg is assumed by Barry Champlain (Eric Bogosian).

Champlain (nee Golden) is an abrasive, articulate, opinionated, funny, biting, knowledgeable free spirit who has become the terror of Dallas' airwaves, the man who inspires fascination and loathing.

Talk Radio, which is ably directed by Stone, takes place during a weekend, after Champlain has been offered a chance to break into national syndication. *Talk Radio*, in the main, unfolds in a dim, spare, insulated studio as Champlain speaks to his variegated yet uniform constituency — the marginal, the lost, the confused, the desperate, the dangerous.

On balance, they're a pathetic lot and Champlain, for all his liberal views, plays to their prejudices. More than a handful are anti-semitic. From the heartland of America, a torrent of unrelieved bile inundates the phone lines, and Champlain handles them all rather deftly.

Embittered callers threaten his life, deny the existence of the Holocaust, speak of Zionist plots to impoverish America, and predict the day when Jews will be strung from lamp posts.

It's all chilling, but such is the reservoir of hatred in the land of the free.

Talk Radio, though, is not just about a broadcaster who parries racist thrusts, pokes fun at sexual mores and panders to the lowest common denominator. It's about a deeply insecure man full of resentments, a largely insincere self-promoter who abuses his boss (Alec Baldwin), exploits his ex-wife (Ellen Greene) and uses his producer (Leslie Hope).

Bogosian is a whirlwind of wit and energy, much like Robin Williams was in *Good Morning, Vietnam*.

Although *Talk Radio* lacks the human drama of *Wall Street*, the political depth of *Salvador* or the passion of *Platoon*, it carves out a niche for itself by presenting a picture of a society — and a man — torn by deep-seated animosities.

The final scene seems unconnected with the rest of the film, as if it was merely tacked on to keep faith with Berg's ultimate fate. It's disconcerting, but not fatal. *Talk Radio* has already made its point.

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By
JAMES MONTAGNES

LAKE PLACID, NY — In this rugged lake-studded region where the 1932 and 1980 Winter Olympics were held you can skate on Olympic-size ovals and rinks, try jumping from Olympic ski elevations, travel Olympic-designed cross-country trails or just be a spectator at many championship events being held here this winter.

Events are scheduled every weekend till April, and all events are open to the public at reasonable prices. Although most competitions are scheduled around weekends, during mid-week you are likely to catch some of the best athletes training at the Olympic facilities.

Downhill skiers can enjoy the facilities at Whiteface Mountain with vertical drops of 3,216 feet (980 metres). A new trail, Paron's Run, has been cut from the mountain summit for intermediate skiers, and there are plenty of trails for beginner skiers on the mountain.

Among World Cup events planned at Lake Placid is Freestyle Skiing Jan. 13 to 15, Combined Nordic on March 18 and 19 with a 70-metre (230 foot) ski jump and 15 kilometre (9 mile) cross-country ski race, and National Ski Jumping Championships Jan. 28 and 29.

Since Lake Placid development was for Olympic Games, there is plenty of accommodation from bed and breakfast guest homes to first-class hotels. But the area is popular, so it is suggested reservations to be made as early as possible. There are good restaurants and for shoppers a number of craft centres.

In the Adirondack Mountains region, west and south of Lake Placid, the I Love New York Winter Festival will be held during January and February. You can participate in cross-country ski races at Lapland Lake Feb. 26 and at Speculator on Feb. 18. Even senior citizen skiers can join in the cross-country skiing clinics at Lake Lapland on Feb. 7.

Winter carnivals have something to please every taste. On Jan. 14 the Wacky-Tacky Quadathalon between Long Lake and Inlet includes snowmobile, snowshoe, hovercraft and cross-country skiing. There are dog sled races Feb. 25 and 26 at the Piseco area.

The oldest winter carnival in the United States will be held at Saranac Lake, Feb. 8 to 12. It will be the 92nd annual event with snow sculpture and ice carving contests, horse-drawn sleigh rides, ice fishing derbies, tobogganing, snowmobiling, ice skating, parades and fireworks.

There are a number of package tours available in New York state for the winter outdoor enthusiasts. For example, Adirondack Hut-to-Hut Cross-Country Adenture can be for two, three or five days for intermediate or advanced cross-country skiers in backwoods country. You travel 9 to 12 miles (14 to 19 kilometres) a day, have three meals a day, overnight at full-service lodges. (For more data, phone 518-828-7007).

Another is Ice Climbing and Back-Country Skiing (Adirondack Alpine Adventure, 518-576-9881) which includes back-country skiing in the Lake Placid area, waterfall or ice gullies climbing.

And then there are glider adventures over the winter wonderland where you sail silently through the air (Holiday Mountain Motor Lodge in Rock Hill, 914-796-3000). This 3-day package includes skiing and a scenic glider flight with a licensed commercial glider pilot.

To help you enjoy skiing in the state there are color signs to explain slopes, a green circle to say this is an easy trail, a blue square sign to warn of more difficult slopes and a black diamond sign to say this is the most difficult course.

For details on skiing in the state and other winter activities write for the I Love New York Skiing and Winter Adventures Guide, free, to SKI, Box 922, Latham, NY 12110 or call from Canadian locations 518-474-4116.

There are synagogues, community centres and some kosher dining spots throughout the state's winter vacation areas.

Jerusalem run set for February

TORONTO — The first Jerusalem International Marathon — "a run through milleniums of history" — will get underway Feb. 21 with a half-marathon run of 21 kilometres (13.1 miles) and 10 and five km options.

In February, 1990, the event will feature a full marathon run of 42 km which will be held annually.

The run through the ancient streets and around the walls of the Old City will feature such distance markers as "Gethsemane," "Via Dolorosa," "David's Tomb," "Bethlehem Road," "Western Wall," "Zion's Gate," "Damascus Gate," "Temple Mount.".

Organized in conjunction with the New York Runners Club and the Municipality of Jerusalem, the marathon will have a course which is both challenging terrain (an 800-metre elevation) and beautiful.

The City of Jerusalem is providing full support and Mayor Teddy Kollek said: "The City of Jerusalem is rolling out its red carpet and will extend its warmest welcome to all runners from abroad and will assure a "fun run," with festivities and a most memorable stay in our city of cities."

El Al is the official carrier of the event. For more information on accommodation and for applications, contact the Israel Government Tourist Office, 180 Bloor St., Suite 700, Toronto M5S 2V6.

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Participants can "find their Jewish roots"

Na'amat Heritage Tour will visit Hungary, Israel

By
RON CSILLAG

TORONTO —

A Jewish Heritage Tour next spring, which is planning to take some 30 people to Budapest and on to Israel, will allow participants to "find their Jewish roots," says the tour's national chairman.

Sponsored by Na'amat Canada, it will probably be the first time a Jewish women's organization will lead a trip behind the Iron Curtain and from there to Israel, says Ruth Leroy.

Scheduled from May 3 to 16, 1989, the tour will spend two days and three nights in Budapest, the Hungarian capital, and 10 days in Israel. Leroy says because there is so much to see in Budapest, the stay there may be extended by a day.

The idea to travel to Budapest, Leroy adds, came about as a result of the revitalization of Jewish life in Hungary of late. The nation has the largest Jewish community in the Eastern bloc — over 100,000 — and the government has in the last two or three years offered its Jews increasingly observable support.

At the same time, Jewish tourists have been coming to the country in greater numbers. There have been cantorial concerts, fund raising drives to save Jewish institutions, and the recent dedication of monuments to Hungarian Holocaust victims and to war hero Raoul Wallenberg, who helped rescue over 100,000 Hungarian Jews during the war.

Attending the groundbreaking of the former last summer was Simcha Dinitz, chairman of the World Zionist Organization/Jewish Agency executive. A few years ago, it would have been unthinkable for an Israeli official to travel to Hungary and meet with officials there, as Hungary broke off diplomatic relations with Israel after the Six Day War.

Also at that groundbreaking ceremony was actor Tony Curtis, who led the campaign for the memorial through the Emanuel Foundation for Hungarian Culture, named for his father, Emanuel Schwartz, who had been a leader in the Hungarian Jewish community.

And as of the last year or two, Hungary has moved cautiously toward warmer relations with Israel. There is now talk of re-establishing formal ties. This past summer, World Jewish Congress president Edgar Bronfman held unprecedented talks with the new Hungarian leader, Karoly Grosz.

The Na'amat tour will attempt to take in as many Jewish sites as possible, beginning with the 130-year-old Dohanyi St. synagogue, an imposing Moorish structure in whose courtyard lie buried 200 Jews killed by Nazis in the city's ghetto in 1944.

The group will attempt to meet the synagogue's rabbi, Alfred Schoner, who is also a member of the Hungarian Parliament. Talks are scheduled with Holocaust survivors to hear how they weathered both the Hitler regime, with which Hungary was allied during World War II, and the ensuing Communist era.

Leroy says participants will also try to see the city's kosher food factory — the only one in the Communist world — a kosher community kitchen, a Talmud Torah, the nation's sole Jewish hospital and the Jewish museum, some of whose artifacts are over 1,000 year old.

Other Hungarian attractions, such as Budapest's opera house and its art galleries, will also be visited, time permitting.

"There was some trepidation at first," Leroy explains, "about going to a Communist country. But the interest so far has been tremendous."

Leroy says if this tour is successful, organizers may take the 1990 excursion to Prague, Czechoslovakia.

Accommodations in Budapest and throughout Israel will be first-class, she says.

In Israel, tour members will take part in lectures, archeological digs and extensive sightseeing.

Cost per person, based on double occupancy, is $2,699, from Montreal. That includes all meals in Budapest and all breakfasts and dinners in Israel.

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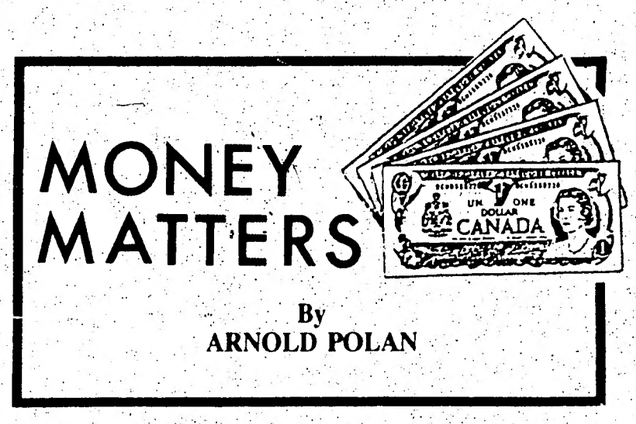
Business Outlook

Rating services diminish risk

Caution advised in bond market



By
ARNOLD POLAN

Whenever you invest in corporate or municipal bonds, you assume two kinds of risk. The first is market risk, which means that the price of your bond will fall if interest rates rise. You must rely on your own judgment and that of your investment executive in timing your purchases to reduce this risk.

The other risk is the possibility that the issuer of the bonds will default. To minimize this risk, you can turn to objective ratings prepared by independent rating agencies. The principal ones are Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investor Service in the United States and Dominion Bond Rating Service (DBRS) and Canadian Bond Rating Service (CBRS) here in Canada.

Our Canadian rating services specialize in credit analysis and provide an independent and objective reference to assess the investment grade of securities. On the basis of extensive analysis, the agencies assign a rating to a security which indicates whether it is a high- or low-risk investment.

The ratings are actually an indicator of the likelihood of a company making uninterrupted payments of interest and repayment of principal: A letter rating assigned to each security classifies it from investment grade to speculative and relates to a single company's ability to meet its debt obligations to that of other companies. The simple rule is that the lower the bond issue's rating, the higher its yield must be to compensate investors for the increased risk.

Bond ratings have probably never been as important as they are today because default risk has increased in our financially turbulent decade. While ratings on bonds of many companies have dropped temporarily and then been raised again once the problems that prompted the lowering have been solved or improved, the lower ratings for other companies have been precursors for things to come. Safety is something that must be considered, rather than merely assumed, when buying any bond.

You can minimize risk by sticking with what are called "investment-grade" issues. Under the DBRS system, investment grade means any bond rated BBB or better — that is, AAA, AA or A. For the CBRS, investment grade ratings are those B++ or better — A++, A+ or A.

Conveniently, the two rating agencies' systems, at least for the A and B categories, are comparable. So a bond rated AAA by DBRS is as safe as a bond rated A++ by CBRS. Ratings of both services may also be modified by "high" or "low" to indicate the relative standing within a classification as well as improving or declining trends.

In the lowest rankings, the systems differ slightly. Dominion's lowest rating is C, for defaulted bonds with poor prospects of recovery. Canadian designates defaulted obligations with a D.

If you can afford only a few bonds (while bonds are issued in units of $1,000, the usual minimum purchase today is $5,000 or $10,000), you should emphasize quality over yield. If you have substantial funds to invest, can tolerate some risk and want the higher yields that lower-rated bonds offer, you might — with careful guidance from your investment executive — buy a few issues in the mildly speculative B+ category. Of course, a diversified bond portfolio can help reduce risk.

Buying still lower-rated issues — so-called "high-yield" bonds — requires great selectivity and the commitment of a considerable amount of time to monitor your portfolio. You should not put all the money you have available for speculative investments into one or two high-yield bonds. Instead, diversify into at least five issues.

If you own any individual bonds, even highly rated ones, check the ratings periodically. The financial pages of many newspapers regularly publish small items on changes in bond ratings, even minor changes like the removal of a plus or minus. (Of course, if the bonds of a major corporation are substantially downgraded or upgraded, that usually merits a larger news story.)

You can find a bond's current rating in either the DBRS or CBRS surveys which are available at many public libraries. You should also ask your Investment Executive to alert you to ratings changes that affect your bonds.

If your bond's rating is downgraded, discuss the situation immediately with your Investment Executive. Activity at the company will help you determine whether to hold on to the bond or sell it and reinvest in a higher-quality issue.

Arnold Polan is a chartered accountant who is vice-president of Scotia McLeod Inc.

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Monika Kiverago (right), representing the Lawrence Plaza merchants, presents grand prize draw winner Edith Kenny (centre) with a voucher for a flight for two to Florida. Second prize winner Betty Miller (left), took home a $100 gift certificate. [Graphic Artists photo]

Lawrence Plaza winners picked

TORONTO —
It looks like Edith Kenny will soon be flying down to the sunshine state.

Kenny is the lucky 1st-prize winner of airfare for two to Florida, thanks to her good fortune in having her name chosen at the Lawrence Plaza Green Draw recently.

The draw, held under the watchful eye of a 32 Division constable at the bustling shopping mecca, was part of a 3-day, plaza-wide sale that ran from Dec. 1-3.

The 1st place prize was donated by Al Perly Travel and Wardair Holidays, while 2nd, 3rd and 4th prize gift certificates of $100, $25 and $10 respectively were donated by The Lawrence Plaza Merchants' Association.

Second-prize winners were Rochelle Gelgoot, Betty Miller and Beverley Menzies while winners of 3rd prizes were S. Kirschner, Janice Lebow, Nora Rudnick and B. Stein.

There were 19 4th-prize winners of $10 gift certificates.

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Housing industry tries to aid 1st time buyers

By CYNTHIA GASNER

TORONTO —

To address the "housing affordability" crisis in Metro Toronto — by far the most expensive housing market in Canada — The Affordable Dream Home was created as a joint venture of the Ontario Ministry of Housing and the Toronto Home Builders' Association (THBA) for the inaugural Fall National Home Show held recently in the Better Living Centre at Toronto's Exhibition Place.

More than 100 housing industry experts brainstormed for 32 straight hours last January in an attempt to find solutions to Metro Region's acute housing problems, says THBA president Gordon Thompson.

"The creation of the affordable home was one of the solutions that emerged from the Charrette, a solution that, when implemented, will allow many 1st time buyers to enter the market."

There is an estimated 372,000 potential 1st-time home buyers in the Greater Metropolitan Toronto area.

Gordon Thompson

The fully-furnished, well constructed and landscaped single-family home that was showcased at the Fall National Home Show, offered an attractive, comfortable layout with no wasted space.

A bungalow of 670 sq. ft. was priced at $129,900 and a story-and-a-half was priced to sell at just under $150,000.

Thompson explained that the bungalow was originally designed to sell for $99,900 but nine months later the cost had increased by $30,000 because "the price of serviced land had escalated significantly."

The same applies to the story-and-a-half which was originally priced at $118,900.

The demonstration project is stalled because of the NIMBY (not in my backyard) Syndrome.

"No one wants the higher-density homes as neighbors," as they believe their property value will decrease, he said, adding that affordable housing is perceived to be subsidized housing for "those types of people."

Thompson said, "Those types of people are our own sons and daughters, many of whom boast university degrees and earn good wages."

He pointed to a THBA poster with the picture of two young children running through a garden that asks the question, "Where will your children live?"

The THBA is committed to affordable homeownership, he emphasized.

"With the support of the Ministries of Housing and Municipal Affairs, we intend to keep searching for a friendly municipality that will welcome our demonstration project."

Real estate syndicates give reason for caution

TORONTO —

Investors flocking to real estate ventures in the aftermath of the stock market crash of 1987, could experience major disappointments, says Paul Merklinger, president of Jantree Growth Properties, an Oakville-based real estate developer and syndicator.

Merklinger, speaking at the company's annual meeting in Toronto, questioned the logic of "blind pools" — where non-real estate related companies amass huge pools of capital from individual investors with the purpose of investing in real estate at some point in the future.

"The amount that has been raised (in blind pools) in the last six months is in the neighborhood of $500 million," he said. "And it's not just this money that is searching for a home. Foreign investors have been shopping Canada's real estate market in a big way over the past few years.

"I predict that through sheer weight, this money will begin to force up the price of real estate in major markets as the product available begins to disappear," Merklinger said, pointing out that risks to investors increase when inexperienced companies offer real estate products with little knowledge of or experience in a highly complex market.

"It's going to become more and more difficult to find high quality, low risk projects with reasonable returns," he said. "Inexperience is going to take its toll."

Merklinger advocates an attitude of "buyer beware," subscribing to a careful, methodical approach to evaluating potential real estate investments.

"Selected wisely, real-estate syndications can be excellent investment vehicles," said Merklinger, recommending two general rules of thumb before making a decision. "Look for a developer who is participating financially in the project and (a project with) an initial equity investment that's large enough so that investors do not 'drop out' over time."

During the meeting, Merklinger also revealed the financial results of Jantree's real estate limited partnerships, emphasizing the company's strategic decision to keep equity levels high in Jantree's projects.

"With a strong equity base, you can withstand the ups and downs of economic cycles without undue stress," he said. "We made a commitment to safety and security right from the start. We want to be a strong, stable company; we want to grow in a controlled and steady fashion."

Jantree, formed in 1985, has 10 limited partnerships under way and more than 250,000 square feet of real estate either completed or under construction in major Oakville industrial/commercial developments.

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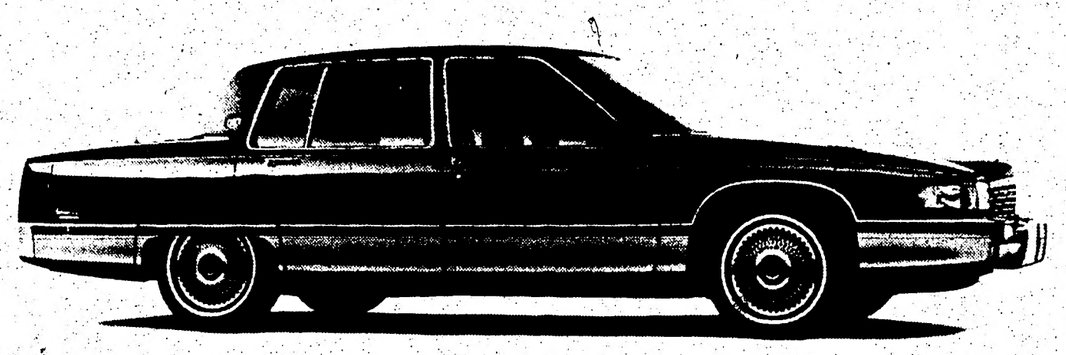

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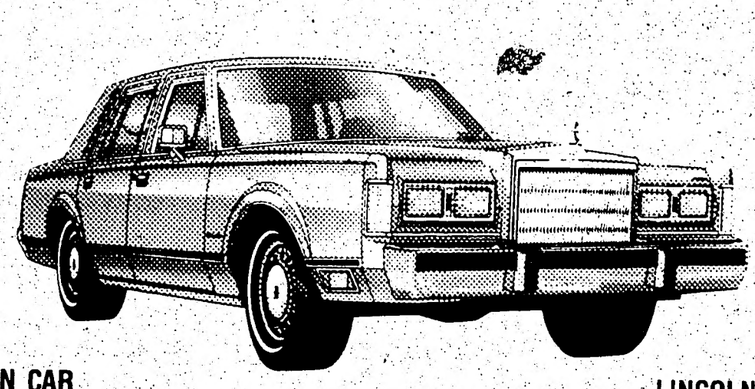

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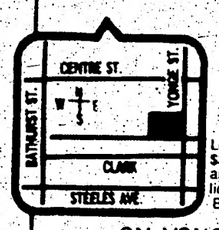

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$1,100,000 — A relaxing retreat nestled in an exclusive cul-de-sac. This 4 bedroom bungalow is perfect as is or build your own dream home on this 109' frontage lot! Owner must sell!!! Sue Boriska 488-4488.

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$975,000 — On quiet cul-de-sac with fine homes. Gorgeous 3 yr. new "Carlton" home. 4 generous bedrooms, study, family room, huge fin. walk out basement. Magnificent ravine views. Many upgrades. Steps to Bathurst. Robert Greenberg / Arlette Carmona 488-4488.

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$749,000, fabulous 4 bdrm. home, new kitchen — formal living room, marble large foyer, finished bsmt., walk to synagogue, school, shop. D. Abraham 783-3333.

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$690,000, lge. treed lot 71.7 x 195.3 ft. in Bayview/401 area! **Million $ ++ homes! Spacious and bright 3 bedroom bung! Build on or live in! Reduced to sell! Great value! Beat the Jan. rush. Call now! H. Abelson 226-0803.

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$429,900 Leslie/Steeles, Lots of Land, Near Public + Assoc. Schools, Upgraded! Loaded! Lovely! Quick Poss'n: Feb, 1989, Act Fast Won't Last, Call W. Cooper 221-5515/731-0942.

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$424,800 Bathurst/Elgin Mills, Gorgeous Large Executive Home with all the Bells and Whistles, White Kit. + White Ceramics, White/Grey Look Appl., See with W. Cooper 221-5515/731-0942.

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$499,000 — 3 storey presently triplexed + bsmt. apt. **Apt. #1** — Deluxe bachelor with 2-way fireplace, designer kitchen & bath & w/o to deck. **Apt. #2** — Super owner's suite 1 bedroom with separate living & dining room with diagonal hardwood floors, firepl. + w/o to deck. **Apt. #3** — Open concept 1 bdrm apt. with w/o to deck. Sep. entrances. Meticulous condition. Bruce Bewick 785-7019.

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A careful buyer's dream! Spacious 3 bdrm., mn. flr. fam., decorated, near all amenities, Ted Waxman, 731-7111.

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AVENUE RD.-EGLINTON — YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE RICH!
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3 large bdrms. Fam rm, fireplace. Steps to park. won't Last. Ray Green 226-9770.

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Custom built 4 bdrm, 4,000 sq. ft. of luxury. Purchaser's choice from builder's samples. Shelly Halpern/Judit Engel 226-9770.

***BATHURST & STEELES**
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***3000 BATHURST**
Luxury condo apt. Low floor. 24 hr. security. Walk to shopping, TTC & synagogue. Asking $199,999 Adela Gertner 226-9770.

***BATHURST & STEELES**
Custom built 4 bdrm, 2 storey, main floor family, den & laundry rm. 2 walkouts. Thousands in upgrades, Neutral decor. Walk to synagogue. Asking $659,900 Adela Gertner 226-9770.

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$339,000, custom built 2 storey 3 bedroom, separate bsmt. apt. in-law suite, hardwood flrs, new thermo windows and roof pool size. Lot steps to Bathurst St. Immediate possession — vacant property. H. Skopitz 223-2110/226-2025.

CONDO CONDO CONDO
$139,900, Glencairn subway, 360 Ridelle — your choice of one, two or three bdrm., pool, sauna, shop. 155 Marlee choice of two and three bdrm. Laundry ensuite, shabat elev-walk to synagogue, for more details. D. Abraham, 783-3333.

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$399,000, charming bungalow on superb lot! Open firepl., hardwood flrs., leaded glass. Attached garage. High attic facilitates second sty. Expansion, finished basement — in law apt. potential. J. Kirsh 783-3333.

$299,000, 3 - 4 bdrm. stone brick custom bungalow ensuite, lrg kit., breakfast room, panelled family room, mn. flr. laundry, suit handicapped, nr. shule, school, shops, Allen Exp., just reduced. Lot 47 x 115. Call S. Banack 783-3333 now.

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$269,000.00 3 bedroom, 3 bath, family room plus fireplace, deck, central air. Roughed-in for central vac, security, and intercom. All brick exterior, 50' lot — view of lake. Close to a synagogue.
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BATHURST-SHEPPARD
4 bdrm. side split. Good size liv. & din. Family size kit., 2 baths, fin. bsmnt., dbl. gar. Steps to all. 633-7373.

BATHURST-STEELES
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CLARK - ATKINSON
4 bdrms., den or libr. Large fam. rm. Liv. & din. comb. Upgrade kit. W/O. Main fl. laundry, 3 bths, dbl. gar. Quiet crescent. Steps to everything. 633-7373.

BATHURST NORTH
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A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

BATHURST-MILNER GATE
4 bd., 3 wshrm., 2 gar., extra-lg. lot. 3 yrs. old. George Baron Rltr., 221-6901.

GEORGE BARON REALTOR

2 Houses For Sale Private

Bathurst/Finch - Lovely 3 bedroom bungalow with large lot in a prestigious area. $379,000. 239-8559.

York Downs at Elderberry - Private Estate Sale - 57' x 165' lot, older two storey house. Ideal site for custom built home. 428-8000.

Bathurst/Patricia area - Sidesplit, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, walkout family room, lot 58' x 131', updated. $432,500, private. 782-8884.

---

1 Houses For Sale

***GOOD INCOME — LEGAL TRI-PLEX**
Spacious 2-3 bdrm units, 2 baths, balcony, 1-2 bdrm unit, pkg. Near synagogue. Across from plaza, TTC at door. $455,000. **CALL EVA HALAS 481-2451.**
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***SPRING FARM CHARM — PRICED TO SELL!**
Beautiful 3 + 1 bdrm. Prof. fin. bsmt., 4 baths (Jacuzzi), garage. Shows like model. Walk to shul & all conveniences. Gila Wolf 787-1712/222-2748.

***TRI-PLEX & 5 PLEX**
Bathurst-Lawrence-Wilson Approx. $40,000 income each. Try offer! David Eichorn, 787-1712 or 781-0701.

***BATHURST - WILSON**
Beautiful 3 & 4 bdrm. bungalows. Fin bsmts. Garages. Priced to sell. Gila Wolf, 222-2748/787-1712.

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Gorgeous 4 bedroom 2 storey. Huge gourmet kitchen. Walkout to patio. Mainfloor laundry and family room. Fabulous finish basement with self contained apartment. Extras galore. 3 years new. Asking $749,900.00. Doris Simon 781-2228, 787-1712.

3 Houses For Rent

Bathurst/Sheppard - Main level of bungalow, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, new carpeting, newly sanded floors, attached garage, central air. Immediate. 881-9042 or 633-1844.

BAYVIEW-16TH AVE.
Short term to Apr. 3,700 sq. ft. $1,750/mo. Alisa Abrahams/Fran Kieselstein, Ungerman Rlty. 731-7111.

6 Condominiums For Rent

3000 Bathurst - Immaculate, beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, 5 appliances, new blinds. 486-0409, no Saturday calls.

Promenade I
2 bedrooms, 2 baths, all appliances and amenities, parking. Joe 881-2388 after 6. $1,350/month. Available January 1, 1989.

Bathurst/Steeles - 2 bedroom, 1,485 sq. ft., parking, immediate. Evenings 226-0264.

9 Accommodation Available

Bathurst/Wilson - Furnished room, shomer shabbos, female, suit student. 636-0036, evenings 6-9 p.m.

Free rent in exchange for evening babysitting, 1 child. Senior most welcome. 784-1132 Mrs. Rubin.

Bathurst/Steeles - Large bedroom, furnished, in luxury condo, own bathroom and laundry ensuite, suit professional, non-smoker. 764-9772.

Furnished room available in apartment with elderly woman. Bathurst/Lawrence. 225-9393 after 6 p.m.

11 Shared Accommodation

Furnished apartment to share, Don Mills/York Mills, non-smoker, $450/month, Michael 445-2316.

Eglinton West - Female to share furnished 2 bedroom apartment with same. January-August. $475/month. 785-7125.

5 Condominiums For Sale

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EXECUTIVE ACCOMMODATION
Bathurst-Finch. 2 bdrms., 2 bths/real marble. 6 top-of-the-line new appls., central vac, window coverings, 24 hr. video security, TTC, short/long lease. $1,350. 630-2444, 630-9919.

Glencairn Subway - Luxury 1 bedroom, pool, sauna, cable, parking. $950 inclusive. Immediate. 488-2437.

11 Shared Accommodation

Bayview/Highway 7 - 2 rooms in house, bathroom, use of kitchen, share utilities. 787-1534.

12 Apartments For Rent

Bathurst/Lawrence - Newly renovated bsmt. apt., unfurnished, 2 bedrooms, non-smokers, appliances, includes utilities. Call 781-1833 after 5 p.m.

Bathurst/Wilson/Lawrence - Newly renovated, beautiful 1 bedroom basement apartment. 783-1607.

Bayview/John - 1 bedroom apt., partly furnished, private entrance, female preferred, available immediately. 731-4820.

Brand New 1 bedroom basement apartment, Bathurst, North of Steeles, private entrance, full kitchen, non-smoker. $800. Call 886-8372 evenings.

All new one bedroom basement in home, block from Eglinton West subway, furniture. Call June 868-8984, 782-1760.

Bathurst/Briar Hill - 1 bedroom apartment in home, private entrance, mature person, non-smoker. References. 782-2274 leave message.

17 Florida Property For Rent

Hallmark - Hollywood - Monthly lease, large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, newly furnished, intracoastal view, excellent security. 731-0609.

REAL ESTATE

17 Florida Property For Rent

Pompano Beach - Parliament House Condo - Beautifully furnished 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 balconies, 18th floor, spectacular views of intracoastal and canals. 24 hour security. $2,000 U.S./month. 4-6 months lease. Lower rate for extended stay. (416) 698-9722.

Surfside - Woman has 1 room for rent in nice home. Suit mature lady. Use of kitchen and laundry. One block from Bal Harbour shopping. From January 1, 1989. Monthly or seasonally. Call evenings 656-0650.

North Miami Beach, Aventura Mall area. 1 bedroom from January onwards. 881-1062.

Lauderhill - 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, heated pool, parking, malls. March $1,200 Canadian including hydro. 536-2907.

Luxury 2 bedroom, 2 bath, furnished condo, Winston Towers, North Miami Beach, 24th floor, oceanview. Season, 4 months or yearly. 1-305-371-2177, 1-305-932-9561.

Quadomain Britania, Hollywood - Winter lease, 4-5 months. Penthouse, 1 large bdrm. convertible, magnificent view, beautifully furnished and equipped. $2,300/m. **Turnberry Realty, Margaret (305) 935-0300, (305) 456-5813.**

18 Florida Property For Sale

— BOCA WEST
— BOCA POINTE
— POLO CLUB
and others
NEW SALES/RESALES
Harold Sarkin Realty
305-971-0280 305-971-5728

Hemispheres, Hallandale. Ocean front, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, upgraded, luxuriously furnished, high floor, southern exposure. 514-487-0588 (Mtl.) 305-458-5901 (Fla.).

St. Petersburg - Huge 1,650 sq. ft. condo. Breathtaking setting on Tampa Bay, as brand new with all new furnishings, valued at $20,000 U.S. Sacrifice for health reasons, $119,000 U.S. Immediate possession. 756-0304.

North Miami Beach - Williams Island area - Fantastic decorated apartment, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, marina, tremendous value. Sacrifice. 305-931-6077.

Hallandale (LaMer) - Desirable south building, 2 bed, 2 bath w/den, 6th floor, southwest exposure. Indoor deeded parking, security, tennis, restaurant, beach. $135K U.S. Owner 407-394-3221.

19 Florida Property For Rent/Sale

Pompano Beach - Deluxe condo, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, large veranda, recreation. Furnished. January 11-end of season. 740-8632, evenings 884-8312.

Sales or Rentals. Call or write. Jerry Rabinovitch. ACME REAL ESTATE. 800E Hallandale Beach Blvd., Hallandale, Florida 33009. 1-305-458-7303.

21 Israel Properties

FOR SALE
NETANYA
Overlooking Beach
Luxury condo apartments from 750 sq. ft. Option rentable income.
George Stern
665-7888 W. Lerman R.E. Ltd.

23 Office Space

Space available in C/A's office, Steeles/400. Full amenities. 660-1817.

28 Announcements

Jewish Information Service has just updated the Jewish Singles Directory. 635-5600.

29 Social Announcements

Bloom - Taran. Jack and Kathy Bloom are thrilled to announce the engagement of their daughter Elaine to Brian, son of Sid and Susie Taran.

Elsie and Sammy Luftspring wish to thank our friends and relatives for celebrating with us our 50th wedding anniversary. We also wish to thank everybody for their generous gifts.

Shelley and Harvey Worth are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Lisa Emily on November 27, 1988. Proud grandparents William and Phyllis Rosenblatt and great-grandmother Helen Margolin. Our appreciation to Dr. Ivan Goldman and the staff of Mt. Sinai Hospital.

34 Employment Opportunities

TOWN OF Vaughan

The Corporation of The Town of Vaughan, a growing municipality on the northwest fringe of Metropolitan Toronto, is seeking a dynamic individual for the newly- created position of

EMPLOYMENT EQUITY CO-ORDINATOR

within the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.
Reporting to the Assistant Administrator, this position is responsible for the development and day-to-day administration of the municipality's Employment Equity Program involving the Town, Vaughan Hydro, and Vaughan Public Libraries. Duties include program promotion, data collection/analysis, employment systems audits, group presentations and strategic planning. In addition, the position will co-ordinate the municipality's "Diversity and Equity at Work" cross-cultural awareness training program, and will undertake related projects initiated by the Council-appointed Town of Vaughan Committee on Race and Ethnocultural Relations.

The ideal candidate will have a relevant university degree accompanied by three to five years' experience in Employment Equity/Equal Employment Opportunity or Human Resources Management. A knowledge of Human Rights legislation, E.E.O. principles and practices, employment systems, audit concepts, and cross-cultural communications strategies is required. In addition, the successful candidate will have excellent interpersonal, analytical, and presentation skills, and will exercise discretion, initiative, persuasiveness, and objectivity in fulfilling the responsibilities of the position.

To explore this exciting career opportunity further, please forward your resume, in confidence, by January 13, 1989 to:

Human Resources Department
Town of Vaughan
2141 Major MacKenzie Drive
Maple, Ontario
L0J 1E0

The Town of Vaughan is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Resumes should not refer to any prohibited grounds of discrimination.

TOWN OF Vaughan

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— qualified swimming instructors
— positions available immediately
— day and evening programmes
— up to $9.50 per hour (under review) based on awards and experience
— applicants are requested to call

Woodbridge Pool 851-1151
West Vaughan Pool 851-1151
Garnet A. Williams Pool 881-6580

VAUGHAN IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

TOWN OF Vaughan

PART-TIME POSITION

CLERK — 3 days per week
— minimum typing
— benefits and payroll experience an asset

Please apply in person between 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday or telephone 832-2281

Human Resources Department
Town of Vaughan
2141 Major MacKenzie Drive
Maple, Ontario
L0J 1E0

VAUGHAN IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

34 Employment Opportunities

Notice to advertisers - The Ontario Human Rights Code prohibits discrimination because of age, sex, marital status, race creed, color, nationality, ancestry or place of origin. In compliance with this code **The Canadian Jewish News** reserves the right to make the necessary changes in advertising copy.

Salesperson for children's shoe store, good salary, good location. 785-1546 until 10 p.m.

REAL ESTATE Sales Reps. New & exper. 80% comm. Training, course rebate. M. Konsker, Homelife Rlty. Ent. Ltd. Rltr. 633-7777.

Receptionist/Typist for Board of Jewish Education. Over 18. Pleasant telephone manner, excellent spelling, command of English language. Competitive salary and fringe benefits. Call 633-7770.

Receptionist wanted, busy office, Lawrence/Dufferin, full-time, full benefit package, great opportunity for advancement. Call Leighann 789-4185.

38 Domestic Help Available

Home Helpers
We provide a wide variety of care givers including RN's, RNA's, HCA's, as well as Homemakers, Housekeepers, Companions and Nannies. All staff have been interviewed and screened by **Home Helpers** as well as ongoing evaluation and supervision to assure quality care to all our clients.
JUDY RICHARDS (416) 596-0855

Nannies/Housekeepers - Live-in/out, available for immediate and future placement. Reasonable rates. Licensed. Domestic Referral Services. Ellen Shiewitz 886-1630.

Mothercare Personnel
Nannies/housekeepers/companions: Available for immediate or future placement, live-in or out, experienced and with excellent references. Carefully pre-screened by health care professionals. Call 886-8780.

European Nannies & Housekeepers, carefully screened, English & Russian speaking. Live in. Tel (416) 690-6315.

Kyco Domestic Services - Nannies/Housekeepers, live-in. Excellent overseas applicants. Carefully prescreened. Low finders rates. 881-4319.

Maid Service - Will clean homes, apartments, offices. Reasonable rates. Discount to seniors. All areas. 421-8923.

Nanny for your baby or preschool children, in your home. Must be Monday-Friday. Excellent references. Bathurst/Steeles, Finch, Sheppard, Wilson, Lawrence, Eglinton only. Carla 244-4172.

40 Personals

"Chutzpah - The Toronto Group for Jewish Lesbians and Gay Men. Information: 323-3564."

Man, 48, going to Costa Rica in January wishes worthy company. Share all expenses. 651-0383.

Want to talk? Volunteers available at Tel-Aide: the Jewish Distress Line, 636-9610.

Wishing you a happy holiday season and a wonderful New Year. Marika, 49 Wigan Cres.

41 Business Personals

Don't give up! Join Chai Introductions. Fast, reliable service. 783-7666.

Autos delivered anywhere in North America by Canada's oldest established driveaway system. 225-7754, Toronto Driveaway Service.

Join Chance-A-Glance for successful matchmaking. Call Now. 889-5908.

Professional and Business Singles - meet attractive, intelligent and compatible people. Call Dr. Fren & Associates. 25 years of successful introductions. 691-7775.

Jewish Introductions International. Ontario's innovative and personalized Jewish Introduction Service. Ages 21-101. Let us find that someone special. Forty centres in North America including Montreal, Winnipeg, Vancouver. 631-2236.

50 Obituaries

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Telephone (416)865-6600
Fax 865-6636
Direct Line 865-6628
24 Hr. Message Service

PARTIES PARTIES
DÉLI PEKING RESTAURANT
3426 Bathurst
Delivery Available **787-0345**

Private Investigations and Security Services. Call Birnie - Civic Security 766-3421.

Sabra Circle - exclusively Jewish Introduction Service designed toward long-lasting and permanent relationships. Helping our heritage grow. 736-0005.

Wanted: Interested singles to meet interesting singles. Object: Courtship. For a discreet interview, contact **Jewish Dateline,** 416-789-0110.

42 Personals Companions Wanted

Please Note: the new box number rate is **$7.00** for responses to be **mailed to you,** and **$2.00** for responses to be **picked-up at our office.**
Please include the appropriate amount **in addition** to the cost of your ad, when sending it into the paper. Thank-you.

Handsome, fit, travelling salesman, single, 36, 5'10", slim, seeks sincere relationship with bright easy going lady. Please enclose photo and phone number. Box 8934, CJN, 10 Gateway Blvd., Ste. 420, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1.

Two single prof. men, late 30's early 40's, seek 2 slender dazzling ladies, early 30's and 40's for friendship and ultimately committed relationship. Reply to Box 8932, CJN, 10 Gateway Blvd., Ste. 420, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1.

23-year-old male, business graduate, 5'4", interested in movies and music, wishing to meet female, 18-23. Box #8827, CJN, 10 Gateway Blvd., Ste. 420, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1.

Businessman 48, 5'11", Handsome, a real mensch with a great sense of humour seeks sincere relationship with bright, attractive, financially secure lady. Please reply Box #8918, CJN, 10 Gateway Blvd., Ste. 420, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1.

If you are a warm, caring, educated gentleman, presentable, 55-65, and if you enjoy theatre, literature, good conversation and travel, there is a woman waiting for you. She is refined, attractive, sensitive, well-educated, loves life and wants to share it with someone special. Box #8937, CJN, 10 Gateway Blvd., Ste. 420, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1.

If you're impulsive, spontaneous and fun-loving, this is the ad you've been waiting for. Two exciting, good-looking, humorous 23 year old women looking for two handsome outgoing men, 25-30 for friendship. Please reply with photo if possible. Box #8938, CJN, 10 Gateway Blvd., Ste. 420, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1.

Wanted: 40th Birthday Present. Handsome, 6'4", professional man starting best half of life, wants Jewish woman for "best" present. Interests are personal growth, family, friends, fitness and warmth. Please be 27-37, tall, smart, attractive, sporty, and love kids. Please reply to Box #8939, CJN, 10 Gateway Blvd., Ste. 420, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1.

50 Obituaries

SHIVA MEALS
• Tasteful presentation
• Varied selection of hot/cold menu items
• Delivery available
milk 'n honey
THE DAIRY RESTAURANT
3457 BATHURST ST.
MC KOSHER VISA
789-7651

RACHEL'S CATERING GLATT KOSHER COR150
• SHIVA DINNERS
• SHIVA PLATTERS
• HOT & COLD MENUS
• LARGE SELECTION OF DELICIOUS SALADS
243 WILMINGTON AVE.
(Bathurst Manor Plaza)
633-6661

Samuel Price on Dec. 3/88, late of 740 York Mills Road #1604.
Abraham Niren on Dec. 5/88, late of 644 Sheppard Ave. E. #323.
Alex Kaman on Dec. 5/88, late of 3270 Bathurst Street #813.
Samuel Kamper on Dec. 5/88, late of 12 Goldfinch Court #1404.
Dora Eisen on Dec. 6/88, late of 118 Granite Street.
Louis Skulko on Dec. 6/88, late of 43 Westgate Blvd.
Anne Brandes on Dec. 7/88, late of Terrace Gardens Retire. Home.
Murray Schaeffer on Dec. 7/88, late of 144 Cactus Avenue.
Walter Martens on Dec. 7/88, late of 20 Carl Tennen Street.
Sarah Lyons on Dec. 7/88, late of Baycrest Jewish Home For Aged.

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The Canadian Jewish News cannot be responsible for the cost of more than one incorrect insertion. Any errors in the Classified Ads Section should be called to the attention of the Classified Department on first insertion of that ad.

We cannot bill for classified ads. They may be charged over the telephone to your Visa credit card, or you may mail in your ad with a cheque to **The Canadian Jewish News,** 10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1

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For Semi Display ads please contact Gloria Clamen or Evelyn Lax 422-2331.

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Oldtime, neighborhood drugstore-style service

This people-oriented pharmacy aims to please

By BELINDA SILBERMAN

TORONTO —

Beware! Hashmall's Pharmacy is no mere drugstore. Its pharmaceuticals are space-age 1980s, but its service is right out of the eager-to-please, family-oriented 1950s.

I made this discovery when I set out on a recent holiday weekend to fill a prescription for an ulcer medication which is usually dispensed in pill form.

I needed it in liquid and was turned away from four large chain-store pharmacies, all of whom said it would take several days to order.

Then I came upon Hashmall's small, unassuming drugstore on Eglinton Ave. W. just one block west of Bathurst. It looked vaguely familiar and I pulled open the door.

I immediately recognized Elena Orszagh, the drugstore's cosmetician. I hadn't seen her since I was about 5 years old, but she looked exactly the same. She has worked at the store for 38 years.

The pharmacist, a graying, kind-looking man, took my prescription and to my relief had the medication in stock.

I didn't know it then, but I had begun to enter a back-to-the-50s time warp.

The real evidence came one month later when I phoned to say my doctor would be calling for a refill.

The pharmacist asked me whether I wanted to pick up the medication or have it delivered.

As it happened I was sick in bed with a bad cold. But I didn't think the drugstore would be willing to deliver to my home — I lived miles out of Hashmall's area, about a 30-minute drive away in Weston.

But I was very ill so I asked if I could pay extra on top of the usual fee to have the medication delivered.

To my surprise, the concerned pharmacist said he would have it delivered. And when I asked him, "How much?", he said, "Delivery is always free!"

Skeptical, I didn't really believe anyone would show up. In this day and age of crass materialism and greed, hardly anything is free — especially when it takes a businessman out of his way.

But to my astonishment Hashmall's driver, Dave Guay, arrived at my door a scant three hours later. He said he had driven through heavy rush hour traffic to get to my apartment. I gave him a check for the medication, but even as I closed the door I still couldn't believe it.

I can't begin to describe how much Hashmall's caring service meant to me. Not since the 1950s have pharmacies provided such service to customers, and nowadays drugstores generally restrict free delivery to their immediate areas.

But knowing the history of Hashmall's, it's not surprising that it continues to run such a humanitarian, people-oriented business.

The pharmacy was started in 1948 by Frank Hashmall, who's still remembered as a warm, friendly and caring pharmacist by many customers, including my own mother, Patricia Elizabeth Silberman, who often shopped at the drugstore when she was pregnant with me and continued to go there for a number of years after I was born.

Hashmall, whose father was Toronto's first Jewish pharmacist, died suddenly of a heart attack in about 1960 and the store was sold to Emmanuel Atlas, Hashmall's former apprentice who is a pharmacy graduate from the University of Toronto.

Atlas, who, like Hashmall, is a caring man, has maintained the tradition of running Hashmall's, in oldtime, neighborhood drugstore style.

His staff includes pharmacists Irving Goldberg, Doreen Gryfe, Mel Manley and Mara Worrell, and cosmeticians Thelma Nichols and Hashmall's widow, Frances. Atlas' 24-year-old son, David, a law student, also occasionally helps out.

Emmanuel Atlas, owner of Hashmall's Pharmacy (left), with cosmetician Elena Orszagh. [Belinda Silberman photo]

Furnace, chimney inspection can prevent much grief

TORONTO —

Homeowners are being warned to ensure household furnaces and chimneys have been thoroughly inspected within the last year.

Fires and carbon monoxide poisoning can be caused by malfunctioning heating systems, say fuels safety experts with the Ontario ministry of consumer and commercial relations.

"The low cost of an inspection and cleaning can save enormous grief," says Bob Clendining, director of the ministry's Fuels Safety Branch. "Too many people ignore this simple safety step and the consequences can be tragic."

An annual checkup is necessary for all types of fuel burning heating systems — gas, oil, and wood alike. Homeowners with wood stoves or fireplaces should be particularly vigilant about having their chimneys cleaned.

To get the best deal on an inspection and any necessary maintenance, contact at least three registered home heating contractors for estimates.

Information about contracts, home renovations, buying services and many other consumer issues is available from the Consumer Information Centre at 555 Yonge St., Toronto, M7A 2H6 — (416) 963-1111 or toll free at 1-800-268-1142.

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Appliances

Appliance Service-All makes of washers, dryers, dishwashers & stoves. Fast service. Call anytime. Harry 731-5950.

Electrical

OR Electric - Potlights, tracklights, all electrical works for home and business. Free estimates. 731-1910.

Electrician licensed E/627. Any job. Call Jerry 638-1626.

Electric works repairs - track lights, pot lights etc. Free estimates. Eli Electric 881-8938.

Alco Electric - Tracklights, potlights, shomer shabbe timeclocks, complete electrical service. 731-5439.

Entertainment

Disc Jockeys
The Music Team D.J.'s. Affordable. Up-to-date. Reliable. Steve: 764-3997.

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Party Planners
Complete party planning services for all occasions. Offering disc jockey services, balloon decor, photographers, video, caricatures and more. The Party Network 660-0150.

Furniture

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Drawers, shelves, bookcases to fit-in cupboards, empty spaces. Joe 665-2817.

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Specializing in touch-ups, restoration & general repairs. Done on premises. 621-7842.

Cabinets, shelves, closet organizers, book cases, custom or ready made. 889-2266.

Health & Beauty

Hair styling in your home. Call Lil 633-1298.

Home Improvements

Levi Construction - All home repairs and renovations. 661-3359.

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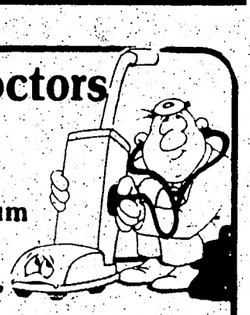
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